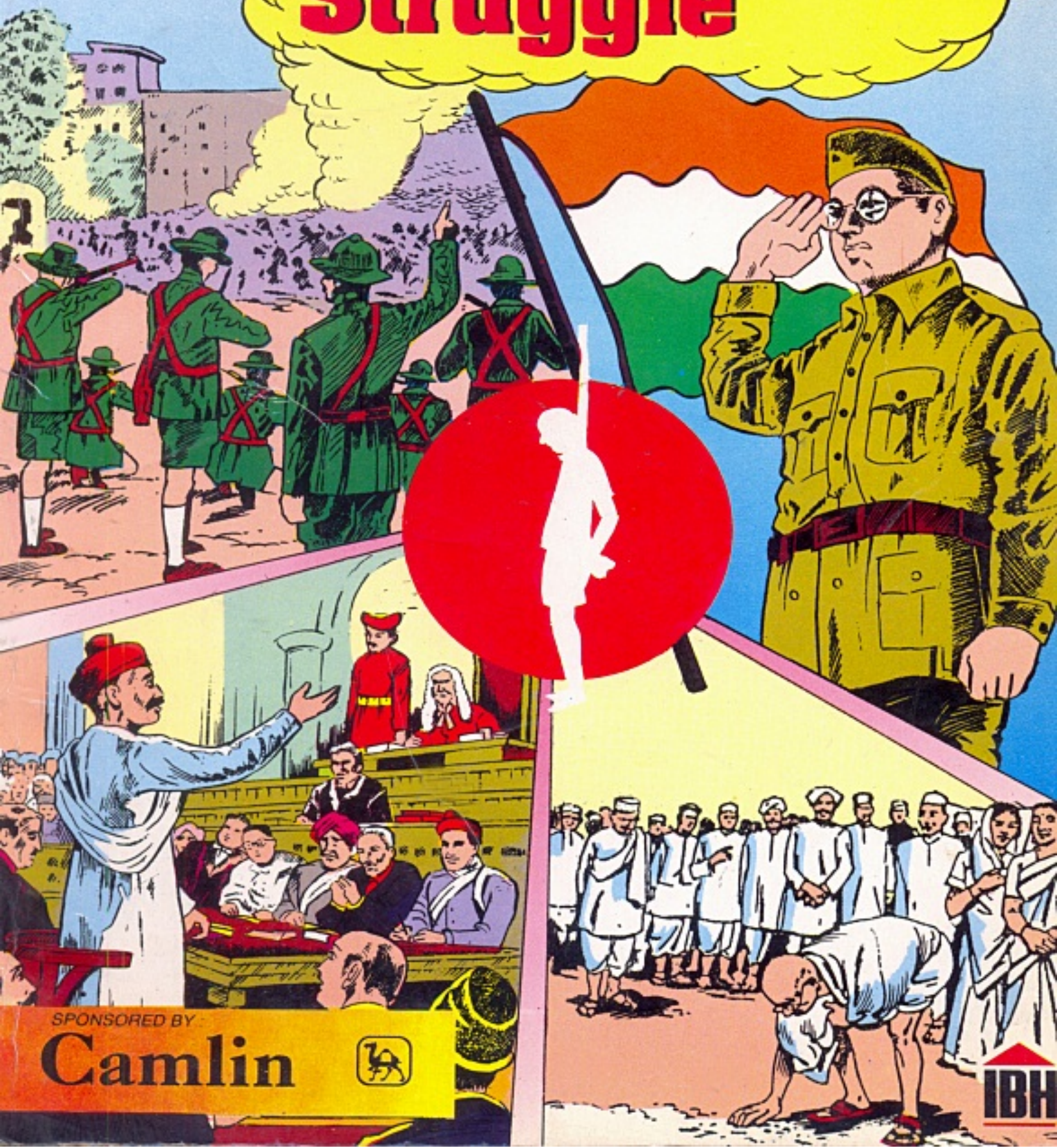




BUMPER ISSUE
NO. 10 Rs 40

The story of **The Freedom Struggle**



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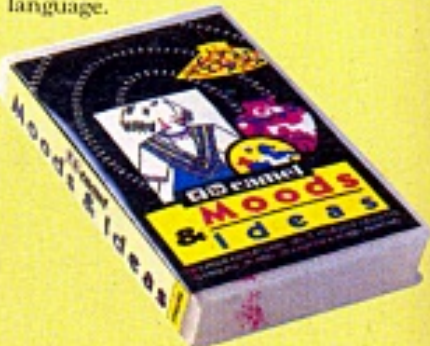
*Puffons on
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PRAFULLA CHAKI, A MEMBER OF THE BOMB SQUAD KILLED HIMSELF, WHEN HIS ARREST SEEMED IMMINENT...



...AND KHUDIRAM BOSE, THE OTHER REVOLUTIONARY, STOOD TRIAL.

I AM SORRY TWO INNOCENT LADIES WERE KILLED. MY ONLY REGRET IS THAT KINGSFORD IS STILL ALIVE.



KHUDIRAM WAS SENTENCED TO DEATH.

I HAVE READ THE GITA. I DO NOT FEAR DEATH.



KHUDIRAM'S MARTYRDOM WAS LIKE THE EXPLOSION OF A BOMB. IT AWAKENED HIS COUNTRYMEN FROM THEIR SLUMBER.



HE MOUNTED THE SCAFFOLD WITH HIS HEAD HELD HIGH. HE WAS CHEERFUL AND SMILING IN THE FACE OF DEATH.



BAL GANGADHAR TILAK DECLARED —

...THE BOMB HAS NOT THE POWER OF CRIPPLING THE POWER OF AN ARMY BUT OWING TO THE BOMB THE ATTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT IS ATTRACTED TOWARDS THE DISORDER WHICH PREVAILS... IF THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PROFIT BY THE BOMB, IT WILL PROVE TO BE ITS OWN ENEMY.



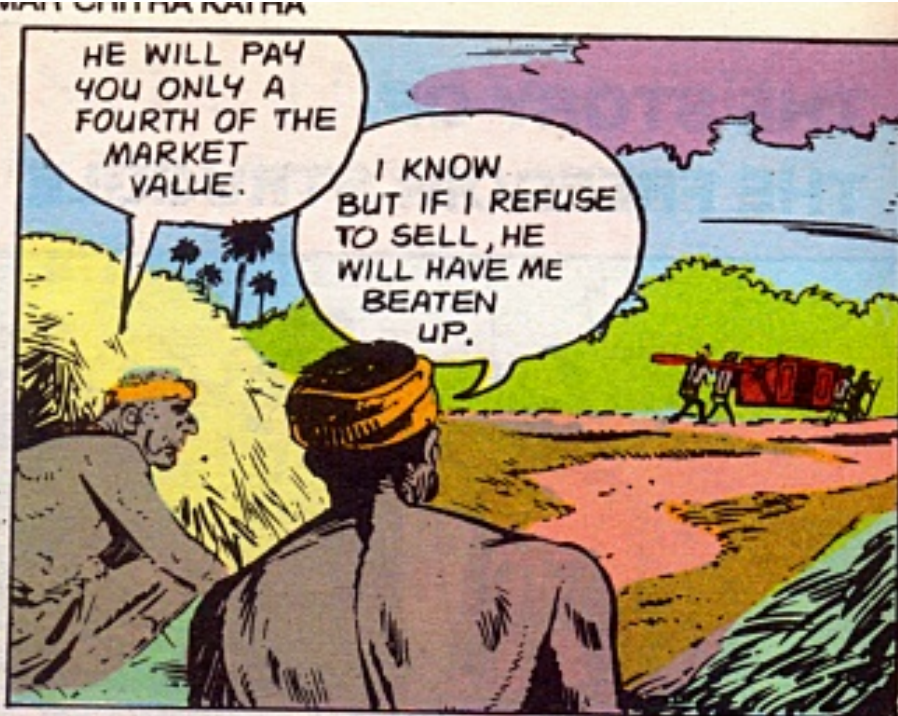
THE STORY OF THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE



AFTER THE COLLAPSE OF THE MUGHAL RULE IN THE LATTER HALF OF THE 18TH CENTURY, OUR COUNTRY WAS TORN BY STRIFE. OUR WARRING PRINCES SOUGHT THE HELP OF THE BRITISH TO SETTLE THEIR PRIVATE SCORES. THE BRITISH SEIZED THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ESTABLISH THEIR RULE. AND THEY DID IT SLOWLY AND STEADILY AND BY THE BEGINNING OF THE 19TH CENTURY, THEY BECAME THE PARAMOUNT POWER IN OUR COUNTRY.

AMONG THE FIRST TO SUFFER WERE THE MERCHANTS ENGAGED IN FOREIGN TRADE, WHOM THE EAST INDIA COMPANY FORCED OUT OF BUSINESS; AND THE NEXT WERE THE ARTISANS, CULTIVATORS AND TRADERS OF BENGL, WHOM THE COMPANY'S MEN HARASSED AND BULLIED.





THE COMPANY'S MEN, WHO ALSO CARRIED ON PRIVATE TRADE, REFUSED TO PAY OCTROI.



AND IT WAS THIS THAT HURT NAWAB MIR KASIM.



MIR KASIM'S MOVE EVOKED AN UNCALLED FOR PROTEST FROM THE EAST INDIA COMPANY. BUT HE WAS FIRM.



MEANWHILE AS OUR FABRICS CONTINUED TO BE IN GREAT DEMAND IN EUROPE, THE COMPANY'S MEN IN BENGAL COMPELLED OUR WEAVERS TO WORK EXCLUSIVELY FOR THEM.

...AND YOU WILL WORK ON OUR TERMS.

THE WAGES OFFERED TO THEM WERE FAR LOWER THAN WHAT THEY RECEIVED FROM OUR TRADERS.

AND IF A WEAVER DARED TO ASK FOR A FAIR WAGE —

ALL RIGHT. HERE IS THE WAGE WE FIXED...

...AND HERE IS THE EXTRA YOU DEMAND

SAHIB!

IF A WEAVER DARED TO WORK ON HIS OWN OR FOR OUR TRADERS —

YOU WRETCH!

NO!

YOU CAN DELIVER THIS TO YOUR AGENT.

OUR TRADERS OR THEIR AGENTS WHO TRIED TO ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF THE WEAVERS WERE FLOGGED.



AND GUARDS WERE POSTED TO KEEP A WATCH ON THE WEAVERS.



OPPRESSED BY THE BRITISH, THOUSANDS OF WEAVERS FLED THEIR HOMES.

MEANWHILE MANCHESTER HAD BEGUN PRODUCING COTTON CLOTH ON POWER-LOOMS. AND BRITAIN KILLED THE SALE OF OUR FABRICS IN HER MARKETS BY RAISING THE IMPORT DUTIES ON OUR GOODS TO NEARLY 80%. THE BRITISH GOODS CAME INTO OUR COUNTRY DUTY-FREE.



MOREOVER, THE GOVERNMENT HERE RAISED THE TAXES ON OUR FABRICS AND SLASHED THOSE ON BRITISH CLOTH.

I PREFER IMPORTED CLOTH ANY DAY. IT IS SO CHEAP.



GRADUALLY THE DEMAND FOR OUR OWN COTTON FABRICS FELL.

FIRANGEES NO LONGER BULLY US TO PROCURE FABRICS.

NOR DO OUR OWN PEOPLE COME TO US FOR THEIR REQUIREMENTS.



WHILE THE WEAVERS AND MILL-OWNERS OF BRITAIN PROSPERED, OUR ARTISANS LOST THEIR MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD.

DADA! YOUR LOOMS! DO SOMETHING.



LET THEM BURN. I SET THEM ON FIRE. THEY ARE OF NO USE ANY MORE.



MANY OF THE WEAVERS SOUGHT JOBS AS HIRED AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

OUR COUNTRYMEN, HOWEVER, WERE FARING NO BETTER ON THE AGRICULTURAL FRONT. THE COMPANY HAD OBTAINED FROM THE TITULAR MUGHAL EMPEROR THE RIGHT TO COLLECT THE LAND REVENUE IN BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.

WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE DUES FROM YOUR VILLAGE.

I AM DOING MY BEST TO COLLECT THE REVENUE FROM THE CULTIVATORS, SAHIB.

THIS TIME WE HAD A POOR HARVEST. OUR CULTIVATORS HAVE GENUINE DIFFICULTIES...

NONSENSE!

MAKE THEM PAY! TAKE AWAY THEIR LAND IF THEY DON'T.

NOT THAT, SAHIB!

IN OUR COUNTRY PEASANTS HAVE AS MUCH RIGHT TO LAND AS TO AIR AND WATER.

NO ONE—NOT EVEN THE NAWAB HAS THE RIGHT TO DEPRIVE A MAN OF THE LAND HE HAS BROUGHT UNDER CULTIVATION.

COLLECTING REVENUE IS NOT MY ONLY RESPONSIBILITY. I HAVE ALSO TO DISPENSE JUSTICE, TO PROTECT MY...

THEN I ADVISE YOU TO MAKE COLLECTING REVENUE YOUR ONLY RESPONSIBILITY.

THE COMPANY DID AWAY WITH THE EXISTING SYSTEM BY APPOINTING A NEW BREED OF ZAMINDARS. THEY WERE SELECTED ON THE BASIS OF THE RETURNS THEY PROMISED AND THEIR TERM VARIED FROM ONE TO FIVE YEARS.

THE COMPANY EXPECTS PROMPT PAYMENT. ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST DEFAULTERS.



OUTSIDERS FROM DISTANT TOWNS AND CITIES WHO KNEW NOTHING ABOUT FARMING BECAME ZAMINDARS. THEY DID NOT EVEN VISIT THE VILLAGES. THEY SENT THEIR AGENTS TO EXACT REVENUE FROM THE PEASANTS.

HUJOUR, YOU CANNOT TAKE AWAY ALL THE PRODUCE. WHAT WILL WE EAT?

THAT IS NOT MY CONCERN. I AM HERE TO COLLECT DUES.



THEN IN 1770 FAMINE BROKE OUT IN BENGAL. NEARLY A THIRD OF HER TOTAL POPULATION DIED.



BUT THE COMPANY RUTHLESSLY EXACTED ITS DUES.

SIR, WE HAVE MET THE REVENUE TARGET THIS YEAR TOO.

GOOD SHOW! KEEP IT UP.



THE SEEDS KEPT ASIDE FOR THE NEXT SOWING, TOO, WERE CORNERED, CAUSING A FURTHER RISE IN THE PRICE OF FOOD GRAIN.

THE PLIGHT OF OUR COUNTRYMEN GREW FROM BAD TO WORSE. AT DINAJPUR IN BENGAL—



WHIP HER!
THROW THEM OUT
OF THEIR HOUSE.
AUCTION THEIR
BELONGINGS.



DEBI SINGH, THE CRUEL AGENT THE COMPANY HAD APPOINTED, SPARED NONE.

THEN GOVERNOR-GENERAL CORNWALLIS ENTERED THE SCENE AND INTRODUCED THE SYSTEM OF PERMANENT SETTLEMENT UNDER WHICH THE ZAMINDARS BECAME THE OWNERS OF THE LAND FROM WHICH THEY HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT REVENUE.



HOW MUCH REVENUE
SHOULD WE COLLECT
FROM THE PEASANTS?



BUT IF WHAT IS DUE TO US IS NOT PAID,
YOUR ESTATE WILL BE SEIZED AND
SOLD BY PUBLIC
AUCTION.



IN MATTERS OF RELIGION, IT WAS THE
MISSIONARY WHO OFFENDED
THE SENTIMENTS OF OUR COUNTRYMEN.

THEY LURE OUR
CHILDREN AWAY
AND THE COURTS
SUPPORT THEM.

THE ONE AIM OF
ALL FIRANGEES IS TO
CONVERT ALL OF US
TO THEIR
RELIGION.



IT WAS THIS FEAR WHICH TRIGGERED OFF THE SEPOY MUTINY IN 1857.

FAT FROM COWS AND PIGS IS BEING USED TO GREASE THE CARTRIDGES FOR THE NEW MUSKET.

THEY WANT TO DEFILE US! IT IS ALL PART OF A PLOT TO CONVERT US TO CHRISTIANITY.



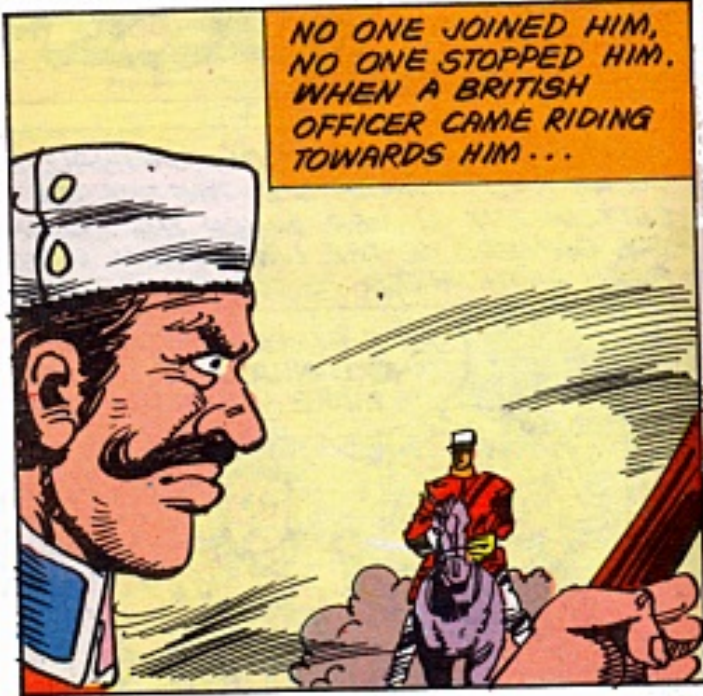
AND ONE DAY—

RISE AND TAKE UP ARMS! JOIN ME! STRIKE A BLOW FOR YOUR RELIGION!

THE SOLDIER WHO GAVE THE CALL WAS MANGAL PANDE.



NO ONE JOINED HIM, NO ONE STOPPED HIM. WHEN A BRITISH OFFICER CAME RIDING TOWARDS HIM...



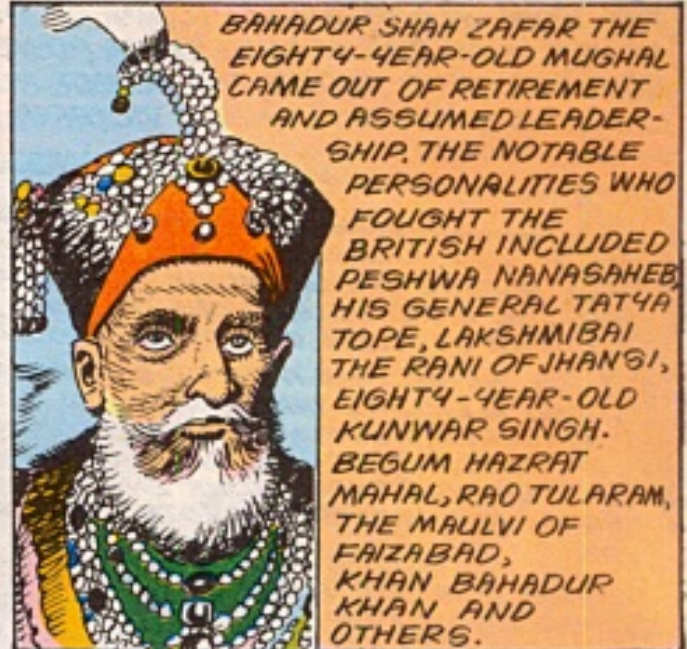
... MANGAL PANDE RAISED HIS MUSKET AND FIRED ...



... SIGNALLING THE BEGINNING OF THE MUTINY.



WHAT BEGAN AS A MUTINY SOON GREW INTO A REVOLT. OUR FARMERS, TRADERS, PROFESSIONALS, RAJAS, NAWABS ALL, ALL JOINED THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE BRITISH.



BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR THE EIGHTY-FOUR-YEAR-OLD MUGHAL CAME OUT OF RETIREMENT AND ASSUMED LEADERSHIP. THE NOTABLE PERSONALITIES WHO FOUGHT THE BRITISH INCLUDED PESHWA NANASAHEB, HIS GENERAL TATYA TOPE, LAKSHMIBAI THE RANI OF JHANSI, EIGHTY-FOUR-YEAR-OLD KUNWAR SINGH, BEGUM HAZRAT MAHAL, RAO TULARAM, THE MAULVI OF FAIZABAD, KHAN BAHADUR KHAN AND OTHERS.

THE ANGER WE HAD SUPPRESSED FOR NEARLY A CENTURY BURST FORTH WITH A VENGEANCE.



EVEN IN THOSE TENSE DAYS WHEN PASSIONS RAN HIGH, MANY OF OUR COUNTRYMEN PROVIDED SHELTER AND PROTECTION TO HELPLESS BRITISH WOMEN AND CHILDREN.



THOUGH THE BRITISH SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES IN THE BEGINNING, THEY WERE ABLE TO REGROUP, DEPLOY FORCES AND REGAIN LOST POSITIONS. AND THE VICTORS SHOWED NO MERCY TO THE VANQUISHED. VILLAGES WERE SET ON FIRE, AND OUR COUNTRYMEN WERE EXECUTED IN LARGE NUMBERS.



THE MOST IMPORTANT OUTCOME OF THE REVOLT OF 1857 WAS THE TRANSFER OF POWER. OUR COUNTRY CAME UNDER THE DIRECT RULE OF THE CROWN IN 1858, AND QUEEN VICTORIA ISSUED A PROCLAMATION:

"...WE HOLD OURSELVES BOUND TO THE NATIVES OF OUR INDIAN TERRITORIES BY THE SAME OBLIGATIONS OF DUTY WHICH BIND US TO ALL OUR OTHER SUBJECTS."

"...WE DECLARE IT TO BE OUR ROYAL WILL AND PLEASURE THAT NONE BE IN ANY WISE FAVOURED, NONE MOLESTED OR DISQUIETED, BY REASON OF THEIR RELIGIOUS FAITH... BUT THAT ALL SHALL ALIKE ENJOY THE EQUAL AND IMPARTIAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW."

"...AND IT IS OUR FURTHER WILL THAT SO FAR AS MAY BE, OUR SUBJECTS OF WHATEVER RACE OR CREED, BE FREELY AND IMPARTIALLY ADMITTED TO OFFICES IN OUR SERVICE, THE DUTIES OF WHICH THEY MAY BE QUALIFIED BY THEIR EDUCATION ABILITY AND INTEGRITY DULY TO DISCHARGE."



OUR YOUTH, PARTICULARLY THE NEW GENERATION EXPOSED TO ENGLISH EDUCATION AND WESTERN IDEAS OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND FRATERNITY, SAW HOPE IN THE QUEEN'S PROCLAMATION. HOWEVER, HOPE SOON GAVE WAY TO DISILLUSIONMENT.

YES, ALL ARE EQUAL. BUT ENGLISHMEN ARE MORE EQUAL.



IN THEIR EYES, A COMMON WHITE - SKINNED CRIMINAL CONTINUES TO BE SUPERIOR TO AN HONEST INDIAN. OUR JUDGES, EVEN NOW, ARE NOT PERMITTED TO TRY A CASE AGAINST A WHITE - SKINNED CRIMINAL.



IN BENGAL, INDIGO CULTIVATORS RESORTED TO A NON-VIOLENT STRUGGLE AGAINST THEIR EUROPEAN OPPRESSORS. OUR PRESS, WHICH HAD COME OF AGE BY THEN, EXPOSED THE CRUELTY OF THE EUROPEAN PLANTERS. THE HINDU PATRIOT WROTE:

THE RYOTS... HAVE BEEN BEATEN, INSULTED, BOUND, STARVED, IMPRISONED, OUSTED FROM HOME... VILLAGES HAVE BEEN BURNT, MEN CARRIED OFF, WOMEN VIOLATED, STORES OF GRAIN DESTROYED... YET THE RYOTS HAVE NOT YIELDED, THEY HAVE NOT CEASED TO ASPIRE AFTER FREEDOM WHICH THEY FEEL TO BE THEIR BIRTH-RIGHT.



WHILE OUR ENGLISH-EDUCATED COUNTRYMEN BROUGHT OUT NEWSPAPERS AND FORMED ASSOCIATIONS, OUR RURAL POOR IN THE DECCAN TOOK UP CUDGELS AGAINST THE MONEY-LENDERS. PROMISSORY NOTES WERE BURNT AND HOARDERS OF FOOD-GRAIN LOOTED.



AND WHILE OUR PERSANTS ATTACKED THE MONEY-LENDERS, VASUDEO BALWANT PHADKE, A YOUNG PATRIOT, TRACED OUR RANK POVERTY BACK TO THE BRITISH.



THE FIRANGEES!
IT IS THEY WHO
ARE RESPONSIBLE
FOR OUR
POVERTY AND
SUFFERINGS.

HE RESORTED TO ARMED STRUGGLE.

MORE THAN VASUDEO PHADKE'S ACTS OF REBELLION, WHAT ALARMED THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES WAS THE ROUSING WELCOME HE RECEIVED WHEN HE WAS BROUGHT TO PUNE ON HIS ARREST.



TO INDIANS,
HE IS A
HERO!



THE GOVERNMENT PROSECUTOR QUOTED FROM THE DIARY IN WHICH PHADKE HAD RECORDED HIS THOUGHTS.

THE INHABITANTS
OF INDIA ARE STARVING
TO DEATH UNDER
BRITISH RULE...



...THESE DYING PEOPLE ARE LIKE THE
CHILDREN BORN TO THE SAME MOTHER-
LAND TO WHICH I WAS BORN. THAT THEY
SHOULD DIE OF STARVATION CRYING FOR
FOOD... AND I SHOULD EARN MY
PETTY LIVELIHOOD LIKE A DOG
I CANNOT BEAR...



THINKING DAY AND NIGHT OF
THIS AND A THOUSAND OTHER
MISERIES... I USED TO
WAKE UP IN THE DEAD OF
THE NIGHT AND BROOD
OVER THE
OVERTHROW OF
THE BRITISH
RULE.



...UNTIL I WENT
ALMOST MAD WITH
THE IDEA.



VASUDEO BALWANT PHADKE STOOD LIKE A ROCK UNTIL THE JUDGEMENT WAS DELIVERED.

THE SENTENCE I PASS UPON YOU IS TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE.

LATER WHEN HE WAS ALONE—

OH, MY COUNTRYMEN, YOU HAVE NOT DERIVED ANY BENEFIT FROM ME. I COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH MY TASK. PLEASE PARDON ME FOR MY FAILURES.

VASUDEO PHADKE WAS SENT TO JAIL IN ADEN, A BRITISH COLONY, IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

ENLIGHTENED BRITISH OFFICIALS WHO WISHED US WELL WERE EQUALLY CONCERNED.

WHAT IF THE GROWING BAND OF EDUCATED INDIAN YOUTH JOINS HANDS WITH THE REBELS?

THEY WILL, UNLESS THEY ARE PROVIDED WITH A SAFETY-VALVE. A SAFE OUTLET FOR THEIR GROWING DISCONTENT.

HE ESCAPED FROM THE JAIL ONLY TO BE CAPTURED AGAIN AND DETAINED TILL HIS DEATH ON FEBRUARY 17, 1883.*

ALLAN OCTAVIAN HUME, A SENIOR CIVIL SERVANT ABOUT TO RETIRE FROM THE SERVICE, CAME FORTH WITH A SOLUTION.

WHAT IS NEEDED IS AN ORGANIZATION TO PERFORM WHAT HER MAJESTY'S OPPOSITION DOES IN ENGLAND—POINT OUT TO THE GOVERNMENT ITS DEFECTS AND SUGGEST RIGHT ACTIONS.

WE DID HAVE SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NATIONALIST NEWSPAPERS, ALL STRIVING TO CREATE A NATIONAL AWARENESS. BUT—

NONE OF THESE STAND A CHANCE. THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ALLOW THEM TO GROW.

HUME WROTE AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR COUNTRYMEN.

...MAKE A RESOLUTE STRUGGLE TO SECURE GREATER FREEDOM FOR YOURSELVES AND YOUR COUNTRY, A MORE IMPARTIAL ADMINISTRATION, A LARGER SHARE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF YOUR OWN AFFAIRS...



... SCATTERED INDIVIDUALS, HOWEVER WELL-MEANING, ARE POWERLESS, SINGLY...

HE HAS MOOTED THE FORMING OF AN ALL-INDIA BODY.



LET'S JOIN HUME'S ORGANIZATION. THE GOVERNMENT IS LIKELY TO BE LESS HOSTILE TO AN ORGANIZATION STARTED BY AN ENGLISHMAN.



HUME RECEIVED A POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM MANY OF OUR EDUCATED COUNTRYMEN.

A GOOD START.



ON DECEMBER 28, 1885, SEVENTY-TWO DELEGATES FROM DIFFERENT PARTS OF OUR COUNTRY MET AT SETH GOKULDAS TEJPAL SANSKRIT PATHSHALA IN BOMBAY, SIGNIFYING THE BIRTH OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.



SIR WOOMESH CHANDER BANNERJEE, A SENIOR CITIZEN OF CALCUTTA, WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT AND A. O. HUME, SECRETARY.

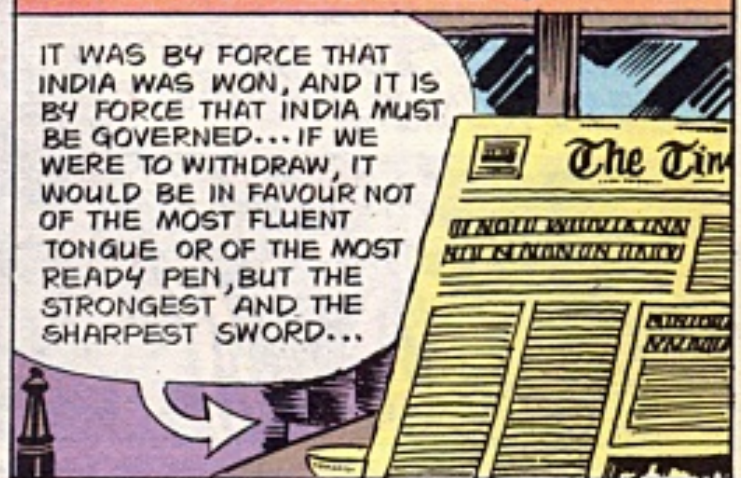
THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS DISCUSSED AND PASSED NINE RESOLUTIONS

WE SEEK ADMISSION OF A CONSIDERABLE PROPORTION OF ELECTED MEMBERS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS...AND THE CREATION OF A STANDING COMMITTEE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TO CONSIDER FORMAL PROTESTS FROM THE MAJORITY IN THE COUNCILS.



OUR LEADERS SPOKE WITH MODERATION AND EXPRESSED THEIR LOYALTY TO THE BRITISH CROWN. YET THE TIMES, THE LEADING NEWSPAPER IN ENGLAND, CAME OUT WITH SCATHING COMMENTS.

IT WAS BY FORCE THAT INDIA WAS WON, AND IT IS BY FORCE THAT INDIA MUST BE GOVERNED...IF WE WERE TO WITHDRAW, IT WOULD BE IN FAVOUR NOT OF THE MOST FLUENT TONGUE OR OF THE MOST READY PEN, BUT THE STRONGEST AND THE SHARPEST SWORD...



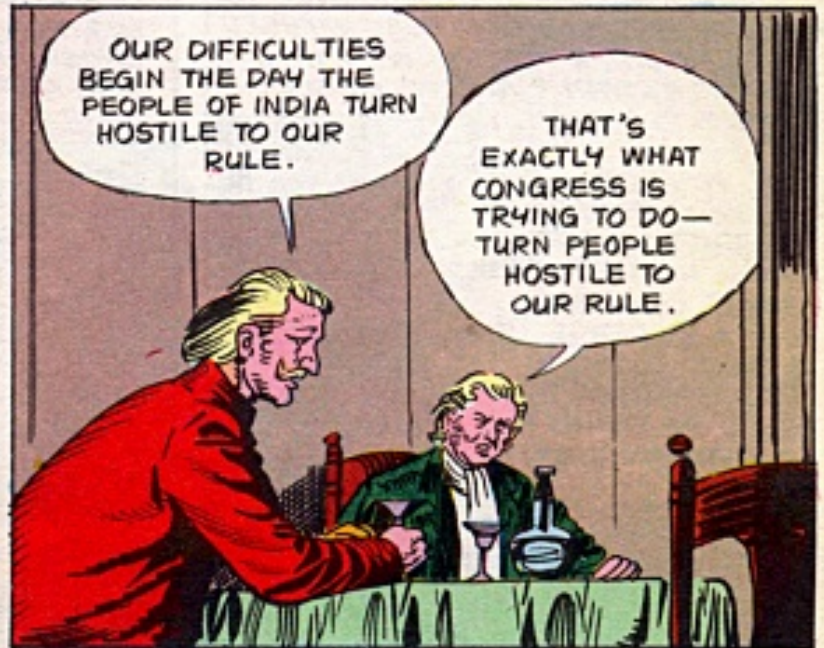
THE BIRTH OF THE CONGRESS WAS A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AMONG ENGLISHMEN.

SO FAR, IN ALL OUR WARS, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA HAVE NOT BEEN AGAINST US. OUR WARS HAVE BEEN FOUGHT AGAINST RAJAS AND NAWABS AND ON THEIR DEFEAT PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE EQUALLY ACCEPTED OUR RULE.



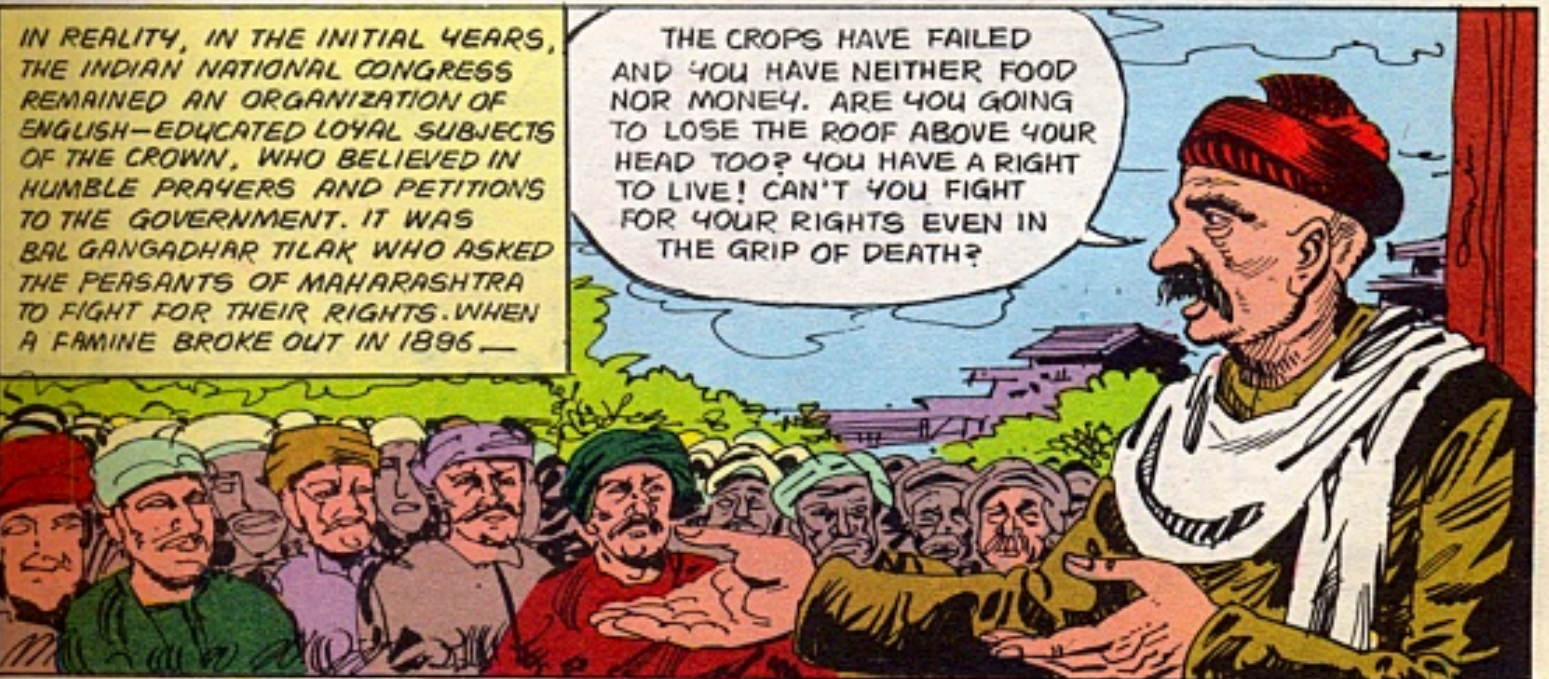
OUR DIFFICULTIES BEGIN THE DAY THE PEOPLE OF INDIA TURN HOSTILE TO OUR RULE.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT CONGRESS IS TRYING TO DO—TURN PEOPLE HOSTILE TO OUR RULE.



IN REALITY, IN THE INITIAL YEARS, THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS REMAINED AN ORGANIZATION OF ENGLISH-EDUCATED LOYAL SUBJECTS OF THE CROWN, WHO BELIEVED IN HUMBLE PRAYERS AND PETITIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT. IT WAS BAL GANGADHAR TILAK WHO ASKED THE PEASANTS OF MAHARASHTRA TO FIGHT FOR THEIR RIGHTS. WHEN A FAMINE BROKE OUT IN 1896—

THE CROPS HAVE FAILED AND YOU HAVE NEITHER FOOD NOR MONEY. ARE YOU GOING TO LOSE THE ROOF ABOVE YOUR HEAD TOO? YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO LIVE! CAN'T YOU FIGHT FOR YOUR RIGHTS EVEN IN THE GRIP OF DEATH?



UNDER TILAK'S LEADERSHIP, OUR FARMERS REFUSED TO PAY LAND REVENUE AND DEMANDED WORK AND FOOD FROM THE GOVERNMENT. HE INITIATED THE CELEBRATION OF SHIVAJI JAYANTI. HE USED THIS AND THE GANAPATI FESTIVAL TO INCULCATE NATIONALISM IN US AND TO INFUSE US WITH THE COURAGE TO FIGHT FOR OUR RIGHTS.

SHIVAJI LOVED HIS COUNTRY. HE VALUED FREEDOM.

EVEN WHEN HE WAS ARRESTED ON CHARGES OF SEDITION, TILAK REFUSED TO APOLOGIZE FOR HIS WRITINGS IN THE KESARI* AND WILLINGLY WENT TO PRISON.

MY POSITION AMONG THE PEOPLE DEPENDS ENTIRELY UPON MY CHARACTER; AND IF I AM COWED DOWN BY PERSECUTION, I THINK LIVING IN MAHARASHTRA IS AS GOOD AS LIVING IN THE ANDAMANS†.

IN BENGAL, THE TORCH OF NATIONALISM WAS HELD BY SURENDRANATH BANERJI, BIPIN CHANDRA PAL, AUROBINDO GHOSH AND OTHERS. IN PUNJAB, LALA LAJPAT RAI BREATHED FIRE AGAINST BRITISH RULE. AND, WITH THE DAWN OF THE 20TH CENTURY, A NEW FORCE EMERGED IN THE COUNTRY.

"OUR EYES HAVE BEEN TURNED AWAY FROM THE GOVERNMENT; AWAY FROM THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT... AND OUR FACES HAVE TURNED NOW TO THE STARVING, THE NAKED, THE PATIENT AND LONG-SUFFERING 200 MILLIONS OF INDIAN PEOPLE, AND IN IT WE SEE A NEW POTENCY... AND IN THE TEEMING, TOILING, STARVING AND NAKED POPULATIONS OF INDIA, WE FIND POSSIBILITIES, POTENTIALITIES... WITH THE DECADENCE OF OUR FAITH IN THE FOREIGN GOVERNMENT AND IN THE FOREIGN NATION, HAS GROWN UP THIS HIGHER, THIS DEARER, THIS DEEPER, THIS MORE VITAL AND MORE DIVINE FAITH IN INDIAN HUMANITY".

IT WAS THIS NEW SPIRIT WHICH INSPIRED OUR STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM IN THE YEARS THAT FOLLOWED.

THE SACRIFICES MADE BY PHADKE MADE A DEEP IMPRESSION IN THE HEARTS OF PATRIOTS, PARTICULARLY IN MAHARASHTRA. ON JUNE 12, 1897, AT THE SHIVAJI FESTIVAL BEING CELEBRATED IN PUNE —

MERELY RECITING SHIVAJI'S STORY LIKE A PARROT WILL NOT BRING INDEPENDENCE... YOU MUST TAKE UP THE SWORD AND FIGHT...



THE SPEAKER WAS DAMODAR HARI CHAPEKAR.

THERE WAS AN OUTBREAK OF PLAGUE IN PUNE. THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER, RAND'S BRUTAL BEHAVIOUR HAD ANGERED CHAPEKAR.

ALL THOSE SUSPECTED OF PLAGUE ARE TO BE SENT TO THE SEGREGATION CAMP. EXAMINE THEM CAREFULLY. STRIP THESE MEN AND WOMEN.



MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE DRAGGED OUT OF THEIR HOMES AND DRIVEN TO THE SEGREGATION CAMP.

MY COUNTRYMEN ARE INNOCENT AND FRIGHTENED. RAND PUSHES THEM AROUND AS IF THEY WERE A HERD OF CATTLE. HE MUST NOT GO UNPUNISHED.



DAMODAR AND A BAND OF YOUNG MEN INCLUDING HIS TWO BROTHERS PRACTISED TARGET SHOOTING.



THE DAY CHAPEKAR CHOSE TO STRIKE WAS JUNE 22, 1897. ON THIS DAY THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S REIGN WAS TO BE CELEBRATED IN PUNE.



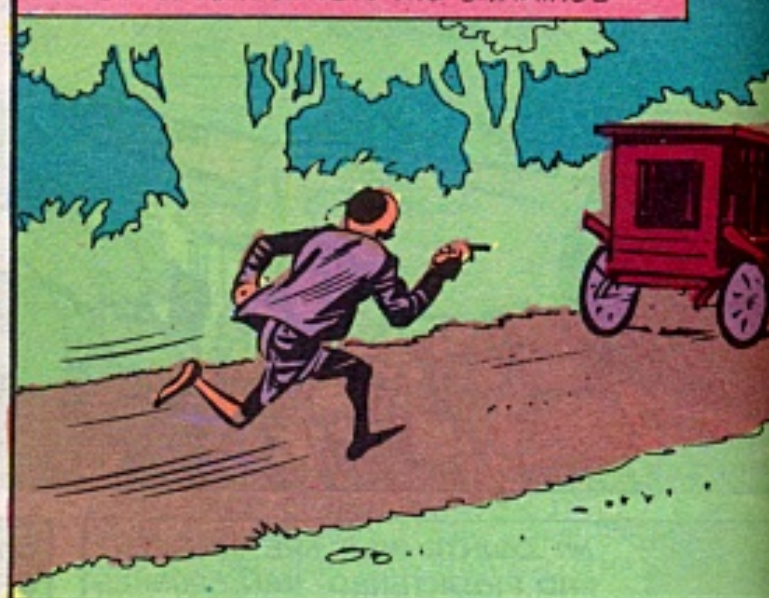
RAND DROVE OUT OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE AFTER THE PARTY.



AS THE CARRIAGE APPROACHED THE HIDEOUT OF THE CHAPEKAR BROTHERS, BALKRISHNA CHAPEKAR CALLED OUT —



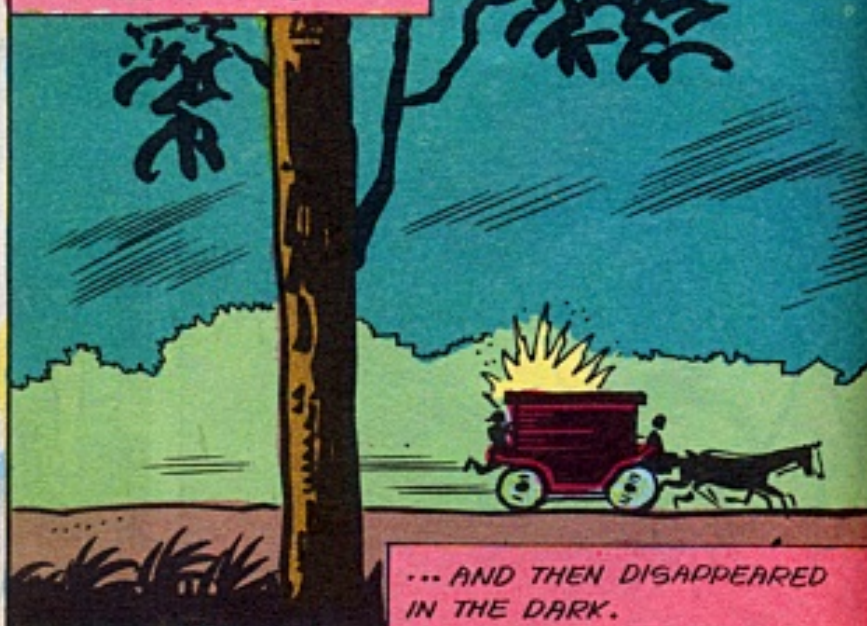
DAMODAR RAN AFTER THE CARRIAGE...



... CLIMBED ONTO THE BACK OF IT AND ...



... FIRED AT RAND ... +



* THE BRITISH NATIONAL ANTHEM.

+ RAND DIED SUBSEQUENTLY.

A FEW MONTHS LATER, DAMODAR AND BALKRISHNA WERE ARRESTED. SUBSEQUENTLY VASUDEO, THE THIRD BROTHER AND HIS ASSOCIATE RANADE* WERE ALSO TAKEN PRISONERS.



* VASUDEO AND RANADE HAD KILLED THE DRAVID BROTHERS WHO HAD HELPED THE POLICE ARREST BALKRISHNA.

HOLDING A COPY OF THE BHAGAVADGITA, DAMODAR CHAPEKAR MOUNTED THE SCAFFOLD ON APRIL 13, 1898.



IN MAY, 1899, VASUDEO CHAPEKAR WAS LED OUT OF HIS CELL. AS HE PASSED BY THE CELL IN WHICH BALKRISHNA WAS HELD —



GOODBYE, BROTHER — I AM GOING.



GO VASU. I'LL FOLLOW YOU.

MAY 8. VASUDEO CHAPEKAR WAS HANGED.
MAY 10. RANADE WAS HANGED.
MAY 12. BALKRISHNA CHAPEKAR WAS HANGED.

LATER SISTER NIVEDITA VISITED PUNE TO PAY HER REGARDS TO THE MOTHER OF THE CHAPEKARS. THE OLD LADY WHO HAD GIVEN AWAY THREE SONS TO THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM REMAINED CALM AND UNCOMPLAINING.



THE BRITISH WERE ALARMED WHEN THEY SAW EDUCATED YOUTHS REBELLING AGAINST THEIR AUTHORITY.

THE REAL DANGER TO OUR RULE IN INDIA COMES FROM THE EDUCATED INDIANS.



THE POLICY WE WILL ADOPT IS TO DIVIDE AND RULE.



ON THE EASTERN SIDE, IN CALCUTTA —

TRANSFER EAST BENGAL TO ASSAM AND FORM A NEW PROVINCE OF EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM. MUSLIMS WILL FORM THE MAJORITY IN THE NEW PROVINCE.

AND IN THE OLD PROVINCE BENGALIS WILL BE OUTNUMBERED BY BIHARIS AND ORISSAS.



BENGAL UNITED IS A POWER. BENGAL DIVIDED WILL PULL IN SEVERAL DIRECTIONS.



OUR BENGALI BRETHREN HELD PROTEST MEETINGS. THEY SENT A PETITION SIGNED BY OVER 75,000 PEOPLE TO THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT IN LONDON. THEY TOOK OUT PROCESSIONS.



BUT LORD CURZON REMAINED UNMOVED

IF WE SHOW OUR WEAKNESS BY YIELDING TO THEIR CLAMOUR WE SHALL NOT BE ABLE TO DIVIDE BENGAL.



BIPIN CHANDRA PAL, ONE OF THE LEADERS, WAS A BITTER MAN.

IF ANYTHING COULD PROVE THE UTTER FUTILITY OF OUR SO-CALLED METHODS OF CONSTITUTIONAL POLITICAL AGITATION... THE HISTORY OF THE AGITATION AGAINST THE PROPOSAL TO PARTITION BENGAL HAS DONE IT.



HOWEVER, POET RABINDRANATH TAGORE REMAINED COOL!

IF A TREE WERE TO PLEAD WITH THE MAN— YOUR BLOWS WILL KILL ME— WOULD IT BE SPARED?

TURN AWAY FROM OLD-STYLE POLITICS, TRYING IN VAIN TO PLACATE THE FOREIGN RULER AND TALKING BIG IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE. GO TO THE VILLAGES.



TILL THEN THE USUAL PRACTICE WAS TO HOLD MEETINGS IN CALCUTTA AND OTHER TOWNS, SUBMIT PETITIONS IN ENGLISH AND DELIVER TALKS IN ENGLISH.

VOLUNTEERS BEGAN TO MOBILIZE PUBLIC OPINION IN VILLAGES AND SMALL TOWNS.

FIRANGEES ARE A NATION OF MERCHANTS. THEY UNDERSTAND ONE LANGUAGE. BOYCOTT.



BOYCOTT MANCHESTER CLOTH. PRACTISE SWADESHI... WE WILL UNITE DIVIDED BENGAL.



PRAYERS AGAINST PARTITION WERE HELD IN MOSQUES IN MYMENSINGH, BARISAL AND SERAMPORE...



... AND AT KALIGHAT TEMPLE, CALCUTTA —

MOTHER, STANDING BEFORE YOUR HOLY PRESENCE I TAKE A VOW TO BOYCOTT FOREIGN GOODS AND ADHERE TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SWADESHI.



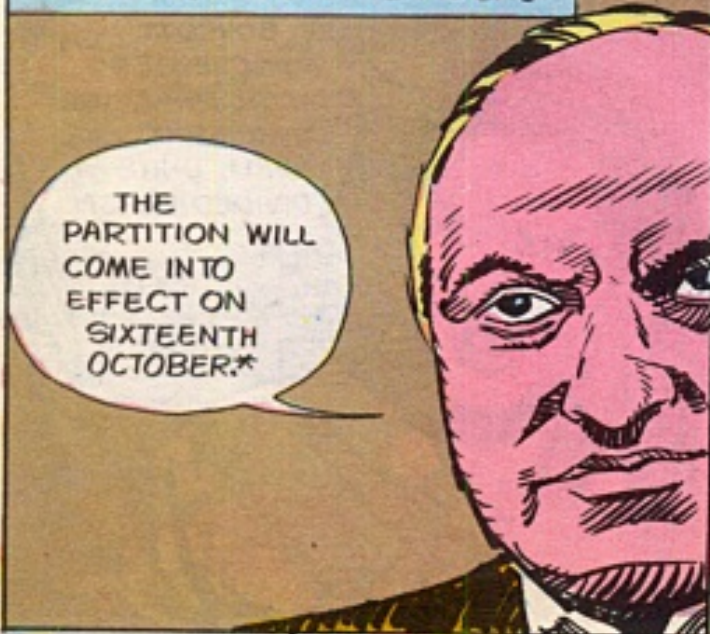
HINDU AND MUSLIM STUDENTS OF CALCUTTA MARCHED HAND IN HAND AND HELD A 10,000-STRONG RALLY WHERE THEIR LEADER, ABDUL RASUL DECLARED —



WE, BOTH HINDUS AND MUSLIMS, BELONG TO THE SAME MOTHER — BENGAL.

BUT CURZON HAD OTHER IDEAS.

THE PARTITION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON SIXTEENTH OCTOBER.*



AND POET RABINDRANATH SPOKE FOR ALL BENGAL —

WE WILL OBSERVE SIXTEENTH OCTOBER NOT AS PARTITION DAY BUT AS UNITY DAY.



16TH OCTOBER, 1905. MEN AND WOMEN, RICH AND POOR, HINDUS AND MUSLIMS WALKED BAREFOOT TO THE BANKS OF THE GANGA AND EXCHANGED RAKHIS.



RABINDRANATH TAGORE DASHED INTO THE NAKHODA MASJID ...



... EMBRACED THE MULLAS AND TIED RAKHIS TO THEIR WRISTS.



RAKHIS WERE TIED TO THE POLICEMEN AND EVEN TO THE EUROPEANS.



PEOPLE BOYCOTTED FOREIGN GOODS.



MILL CLOTH FROM BOMBAY AND AHMEDABAD COULD NOT MEET THE DEMAND. OUR PEOPLE APPROACHED THE VILLAGE WEAVERS.



CHARKHA WITH WHICH YARN WAS SPUN WAS HARD TO FIND. WEAVERS HAD TO USE MILL-MADE YARN.

THUS MEN AND WOMEN DISCARDED CHEAP AND FINE MANCHESTER CLOTH IN FAVOUR OF COARSE HANDLOOM FABRICS.



GIVE THE PLACE OF HONOUR TO THE COARSE CLOTH, SISTER. THIS IS THE GIFT OF THE MOTHER TOO POOR TO OFFER A BETTER ONE.



THUS THE SWADESHI MOVEMENT REVIVED THE INDIGENOUS HANDLOOM INDUSTRY.

BUG YOUR SIS

Here is a better way to bug
your didi today.

Things you need- Kores Glue Stick,
Colour paper and sense of humour

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1

Put one lid on a square
of coloured paper and
cut the paper carefully
round the outside to
make a circle.



Step
2

Cut out different
sizes of circles
and strips.



Step
3

Use Kores Glue stick
to glue different circles
as shown.

Step
4

Use Kores Glue stick
to fix those strips and
dots on the bug.



Step
5

Place this under
your sister's pillow
and watch out the horror
tomorrow morning.



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530 SHAKUNTALA	567 INDRA AND SHACHI	BIRBAL	FALSE VASUDEVA
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532 SUDAMA	569 MALAVIKA	PRITHVIRAJ CHAUHAN	ALEXANDER
533 ABHIMANYU	570 DASHARATHA	605 PADMINI	641 GOPAL AND THE
534 BHEESHMA	571 DHURVA AND	606 RANI DURGAVATI	COWHERD
535 MIRABAI	ASHTAVAKRA	607 A BAG OF GOLD COINS	642 SHAH JAHAN
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539 RANI OF JHANSI	THE MAGIC CHANT	610 RAVANA HUMBLD	MILKMAID AND OTHER
540 PANCHATANTRA -	575 JATAKA TALES - THE	611 BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR	TALES TOLD BY
THE JACKAL AND	GIANT AND THE	612 URVASHI	RAMAKRISHNA
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541 THE LORD OF LANKA	576 JATAKA TALES - THE	614 JATAKA TALES -	648 SAMUDRA GUPTA
542 DRAUPADI	MOUSE MERCHANT	TRUE FRIENDS	649 TALES FROM THE
543 JATAKA TALES -	577 HARISHCHANDRA	JATAKA TALES -	UPANISHADS
MONKEY STORIES	578 PARASHURAMA	STORIES OF	650 MAHATMA GANDHI
		COURAGE	PART - I

A CHAIN OF SWADESHI STORES CAME INTO EXISTENCE ALL OVER BENGAL. HOWEVER, SOME UNSCRUPULOUS TRADERS DID NOT HESITATE TO HIKE THE PRICE OF SWADESHI GOODS THAT WERE SCARCE.



TO PUT A STOP TO MALPRACTICES SEVERAL SAMITIS WERE FORMED. SCHOOL AND COLLEGE BOYS SOLD GOODS AT COST PRICE.



THE SAMITIS ORGANIZED MEETINGS, TOOK OUT PROCESSIONS, DISTRIBUTED PATRIOTIC LITERATURE.



FULLER, THE LT. GOVERNOR OF THE NEW PROVINCE OF EAST BENGAL, WAS ALARMED.



THE HEADMASTERS OF SCHOOLS RECEIVED CIRCULARS FROM THE GOVERNMENT ASKING THEM TO TAKE STRICT ACTION AGAINST OFFENDING STUDENTS.



KALIPRASANNA DASGUPTA, THE HEADMASTER OF MADARIPUR SCHOOL, CALLED A MEETING OF HIS STUDENTS.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS BANNED THE RAISING OF THE SLOGAN—
BANDE MATARAM.

I DO NOT KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY. AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED I HAVE ONLY TWO WORDS TO SAY.

BANDE MATARAM.

STUDENTS CHEERED THEIR HEADMASTER AND RESPONDED IN SIMILAR WORDS.

BANDE MATARAM

IT IS NEEDLESS TO SAY THAT DASGUPTA LOST HIS JOB.

AT RANGPUR* 263 BOYS WHO DEFIED THE GOVERNMENT ORDER AND ATTENDED SWADESHI MEETINGS WERE THROWN OUT OF THE SCHOOL.

WE ARE HAPPY WE DON'T HAVE TO ATTEND THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL.

WE WANT SWADESHI SCHOOLS WHERE PATRIOTISM IS NOT CONSIDERED A CRIME.

RANGPUR HAD THE DISTINCTION OF SETTING UP THE FIRST NATIONAL SCHOOL.

THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS MET AT VARANASI IN 1905. SURENDRANATH BANERJI RECEIVED A STANDING OVATION.



YES. THE ENTIRE NATION TOOK UP SWADESHI AND BOYCOTT OF EUROPEAN GOODS.



WHEN LORD CURZON WAS SUCCEEDED BY LORD MINTO, OUR BENGALI BRETHREN HOPED THAT THE NEW VICEROY WOULD TAKE NOTE OF POPULAR DISCONTENT AND ANNOUNCE ANNULMENT OF PARTITION. HOWEVER WHEN A DELEGATION CALLED ON HIM —

I AM EXTREMELY SORRY, GENTLEMEN. PARTITION IS A SETTLED FACT. WE CANNOT REOPEN THE QUESTION.



LORD MINTO'S REPLY MADE PEOPLE EVEN MORE FRUSTRATED AND ANGRY. A HUGE FIRE WAS LIT AT COLLEGE SQUARE IN CALCUTTA.



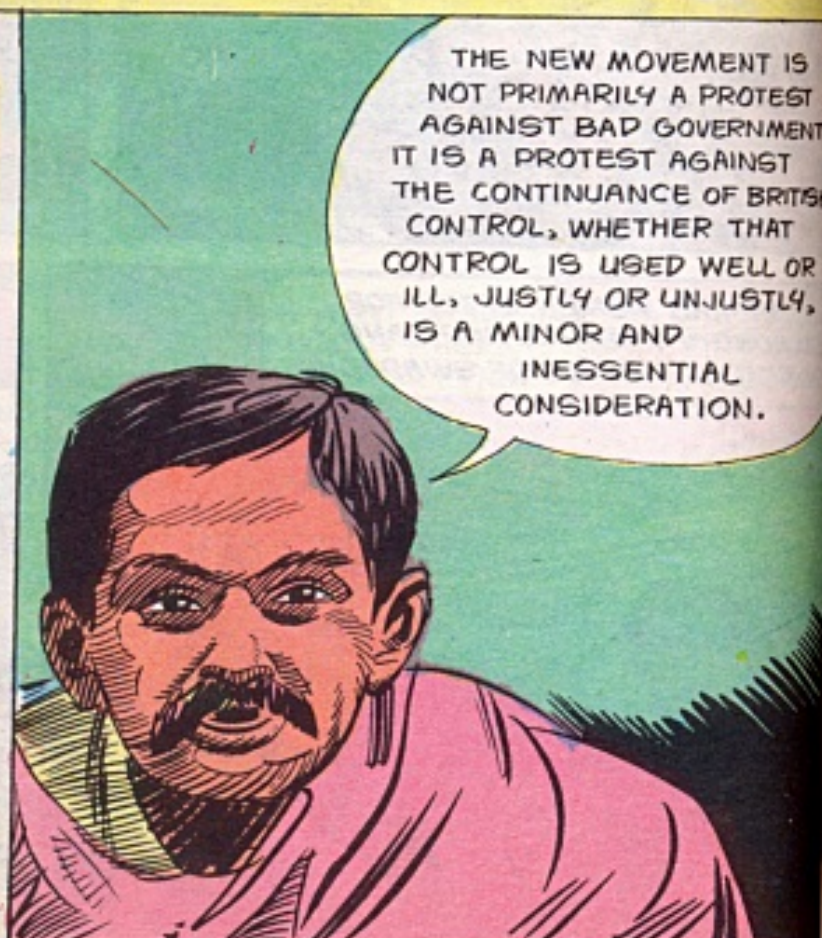
THE ONLOOKERS THREW DOWN INTO THE FIRE CHUDDARS, SALWARS, SHOES, CIGARETTES—ANYTHING MANUFACTURED BY THE BRITISH.

PEOPLE INTENSIFIED THE AGITATION. THE GOAL NOW WAS FREEDOM FROM THE BRITISH RULE AS POINTED OUT BY BIPIN CHANDRA PAL AND AUROBINDO.

OUR IDEAL IS FREEDOM WHICH MEANS ABSENCE OF FOREIGN CONTROL.



THE NEW MOVEMENT IS NOT PRIMARILY A PROTEST AGAINST BAD GOVERNMENT. IT IS A PROTEST AGAINST THE CONTINUANCE OF BRITISH CONTROL, WHETHER THAT CONTROL IS USED WELL OR ILL, JUSTLY OR UNJUSTLY, IS A MINOR AND INESSENTIAL CONSIDERATION.



A LARGE NUMBER OF WORKERS EMPLOYED IN BRITISH FIRMS STRUCK WORK. MUSLIM DRIVERS OF THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY TOOK A PLEDGE ON THE QURAN AND WALKED OUT TO JOIN THE SWADESHI MOVEMENT.



THE BOYCOTT MOVEMENT WAS INTENSIFIED. VOLUNTEERS BEGAN PEACEFUL PICKETING IN FRONT OF SHOPS.



BROTHER, I BEG YOU, DON'T BUY VILAYATI GOODS.

IN CASE THEY SAW SOMEONE COMING OUT OF THE SHOP —



SISTER, HAVE YOU BOUGHT VILAYATI GOODS...

4...E...S...



IT IS DIFFICULT TO GET SWADESHI...

WE WILL ARRANGE IT FOR YOU. PLEASE RETURN THE GOODS.

IF THE SHOPKEEPER REFUSED TO TAKE BACK THE GOODS SOLD, THE VOLUNTEER WOULD PAY FOR THE GOODS AND CONSIGN THEM TO THE FIRE.



HERE IS THE PAYMENT FOR YOUR....

NO, PLEASE. THIS IS THE LAST TIME I TOUCH VILAYATI GOODS.

SOME YOUNG MEN WOULD GET INTO AN ARGUMENT WITH THOSE WHO WISHED TO BUY FOREIGN GOODS —

YOUR MONEY MUST GO TO OUR POOR WEAVERS, NOT TO THE MANCHESTER BARONS.

PLEASE STAND ASIDE AND LET ME PASS.



IF YOU STILL INSIST ON BUYING VILAYATI GOODS...



YOU COULD WALK ON OUR BODIES.



THAT WAS THE SIGNAL FOR THE POLICE TO COME RUSHING...



... WIELDING LATHIS.



FULLER, THE LT. GOVERNOR OF THE NEW PROVINCE OF EAST BENGAL, DID NOT HESITATE TO ADOPT RUTHLESS MEASURES TO BREAK THE AGITATION.

YOU WILL SEE TO IT THAT NO ONE RAISES THE CRY BANDE MATARAM.

URCHINS WHO SHOUTED BANDE MATARAM WERE GIVEN A CHASE...

BANDE MATARAM

... CAUGHT ...

BANDE MATARAM

... AND FLOGGED.

BANDE MATARAM

DO YOU SEE WHAT IS WRITTEN ON THE WALL... PULL DOWN THAT HOUSE.

BANDE MATARAM

IN SPITE OF SUCH HARSH MEASURES PEOPLE REFUSED TO BOW DOWN BEFORE FULLER. AT BARISAL —

WE WILL HOLD A PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ON APRIL 14TH AND 15TH.

ON THE 14TH THE DELEGATES TO THE CONFERENCE TOOK OUT A PROCESSION. BARRISTER ABDUL RASUL WAS TO BE THE PRESIDENT. HE WAS IN A CARRIAGE WITH HIS ENGLISH WIFE. SURENDRANATH AND OTHERS FOLLOWED THE CARRIAGE ON FOOT.



THE POLICE ALLOWED THE LEADERS TO PASS UNMOLESTED. HOWEVER THEY RAISED THEIR LATHIS AS THE YOUNGER DELEGATES PASSED BY.



A VOLUNTEER CALLED CHITTARANJAN WAS BODILY THROWN INTO A TANK FILLED WITH WATER...



... AND LATHI BLOWS WERE SHOWERED ON THE YOUNG MAN STRUGGLING IN THE TANK.



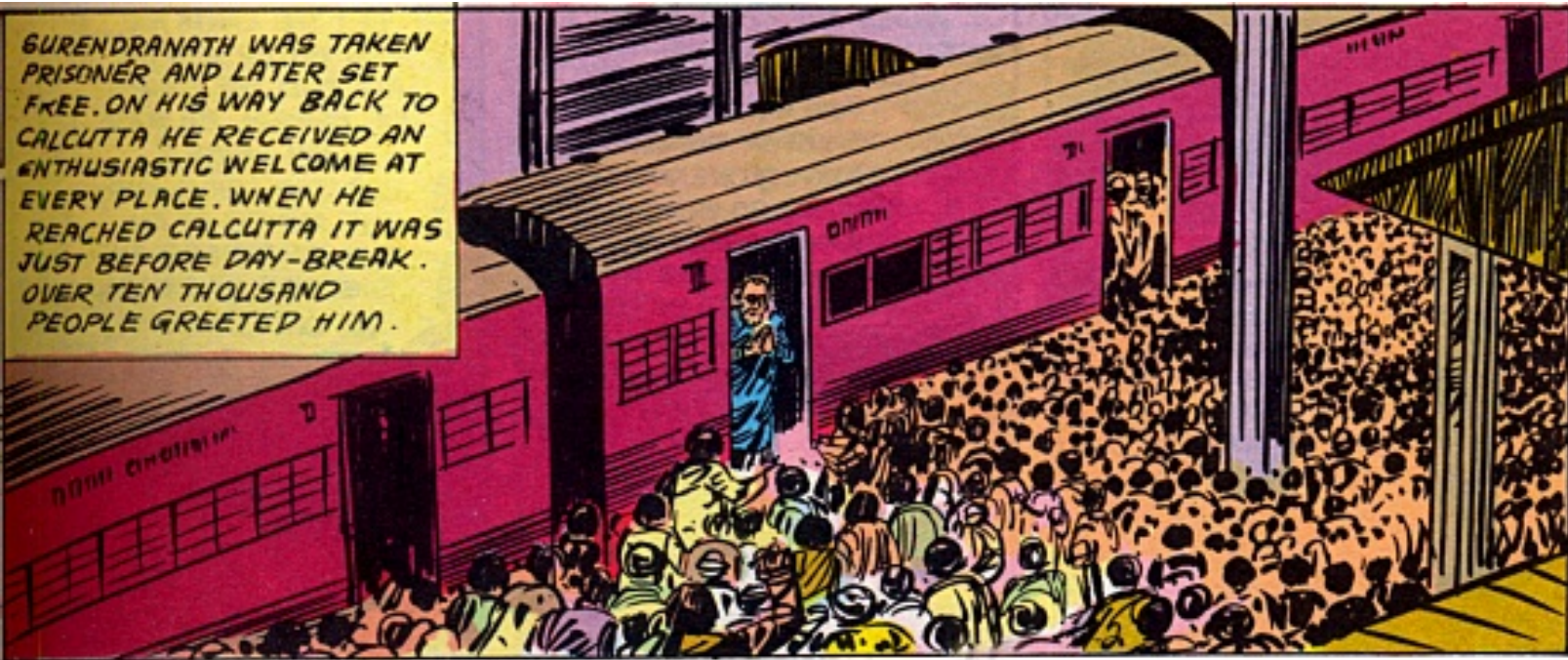
HEARING THE COMMOTION AT THE BACK SURENDRANATH TURNED BACK.

WHY ARE YOU THRASHING THEM? I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR BEHAVIOUR. ARREST ME, IF YOU LIKE.

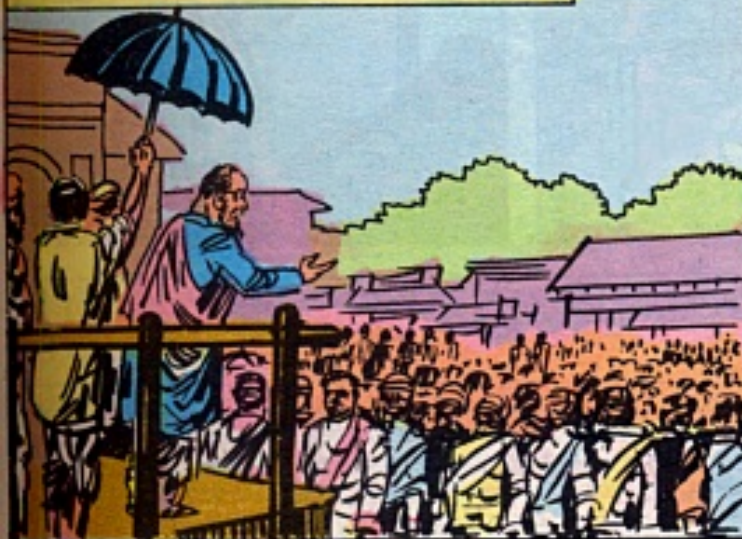
YOU ARE MY PRISONER, SIR.



SURENDRANATH WAS TAKEN PRISONER AND LATER SET FREE. ON HIS WAY BACK TO CALCUTTA HE RECEIVED AN ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME AT EVERY PLACE. WHEN HE REACHED CALCUTTA IT WAS JUST BEFORE DAY-BREAK. OVER TEN THOUSAND PEOPLE GREETED HIM.



THE EXCITED YOUNGSTERS UNHORSED THE CARRIAGE AND DREW IT TO COLLEGE SQUARE WHERE HE ADDRESSED A MEETING.



THE BARISAL INCIDENT ELECTRIFIED THE NATION. AND LORD MINTO RECEIVED A STRONG NOTE FROM THE GOVERNMENT IN ENGLAND.



HOWEVER, THE SITUATION HAD GONE OUT OF CONTROL. LORD MINTO ISSUED AN ORDINANCE RESTRICTING THE RIGHT TO HOLD MEETINGS. BUT THE AGITATORS WERE READY WITH AN ANSWER.



BOYS TRAINED BY LIKAT HUSAIN, HIMSELF A MELODIOUS SINGER, WENT ROUND SINGING SONGS...



THE TIGHTER THEIR NOOSE, THE EASIER WOULD IT BE TO BREAK// THE EASIER FOR US TO BE FREE// THE MORE THEIR EYES TURN RED, THE MORE OUR EYES WILL OPEN// MORE OPEN WILL OUR EYES BE//

... WHICH THE COMMON FOLK BEGAN TO HUM.



ARE YOU SO STRONG TO SEVER THE CHAIN OF DESTINY? OH! YOU THINK YOU ARE SO STRONG// THE PRIDE TO BREAK AND MAKE OUR LIVES AT WILL// OH! TO BE SO PROUD YOU LONG!

LET THE EARTH AND THE WATER AND THE AIR AND THE FRUITS OF BENGAL BE HOLY, MY LORD!// LET THE LIVES AND THE MINDS OF ALL THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF BENGAL BE ONE, MY LORD!//



THE SWADESHI MOVEMENT SOON SPREAD TO MOST PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. BIPIN CHANDRA PAL MADE SEVERAL SPEECHES IN MADRAS. THE CITY WITNESSED MANY BONFIRES OF FOREIGN GOODS.

SUBRAMANIA BHARATI TOOK A LEADING PART.



SUBRAMANIA BHARATI TOO ADDRESSED SEVERAL MEETINGS AND MESMERISED VAST AUDIENCES WITH HIS SOULFUL RENDERING OF PATRIOTIC SONGS COMPOSED BY HIMSELF.



ALTHOUGH A THOUSAND CASTES MAY FLOURISH HERE, THE ALIEN SHALL HAVE NO QUARTER, THE MOTHER'S SONS MAY QUARREL AND WRANGLE YET BROTHERS ARE THEY STILL....

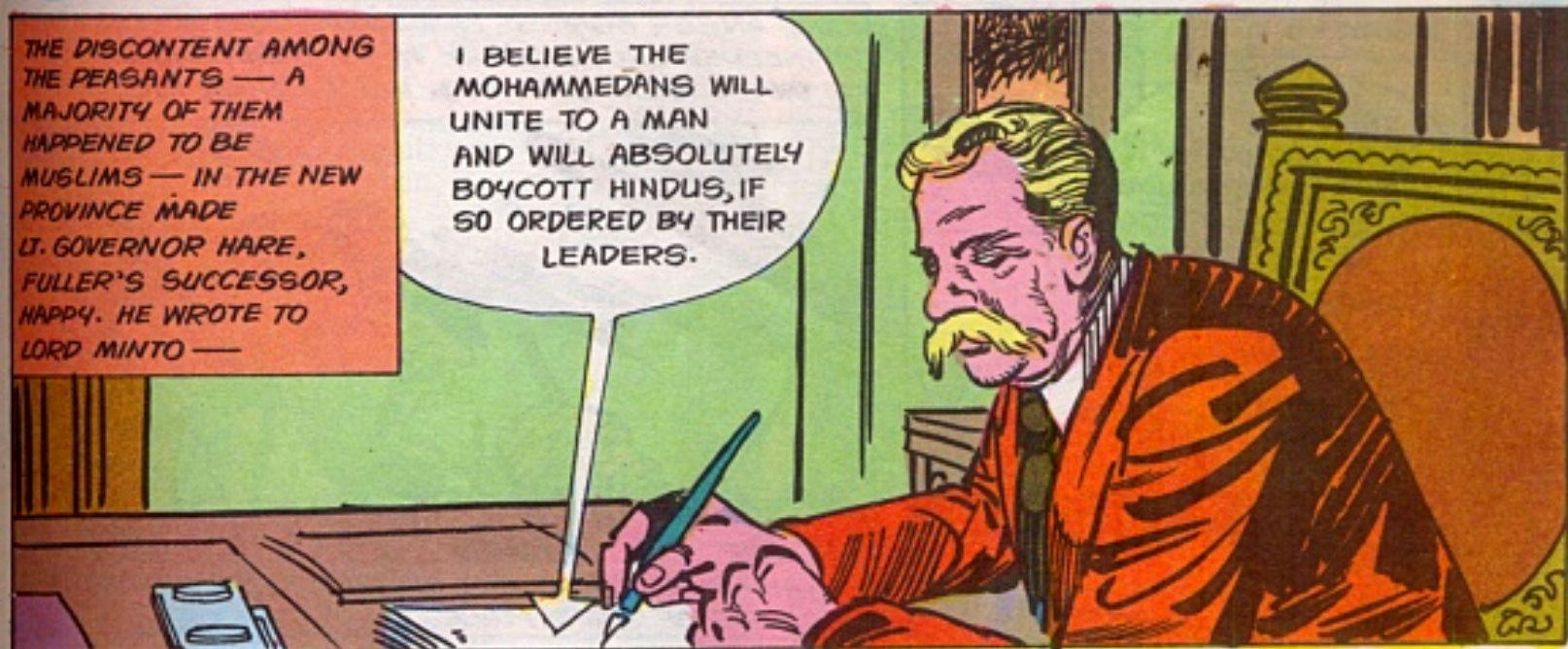
AROUND THIS TIME PEASANTS WORKING FOR ZAMINDARS WERE A WRETCHED LOT ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF THE EXORBITANT RENTS THEY WERE FORCED TO PAY. SEVERAL PAMPHLETS CAME TO BE CIRCULATED AMONG THEM.

NOW THESE FIRANGEES, SONS OF DEVILS, DIVIDE THIS GOLDEN BENGAL... WE HINDUS AND MOHAMMEDANS JOINTLY WORSHIP THE FEET OF THE MOTHER. ...WE MUST NOT PAY ENHANCED RATES.



THE DISCONTENT AMONG THE PEASANTS — A MAJORITY OF THEM HAPPENED TO BE MUSLIMS — IN THE NEW PROVINCE MADE LI. GOVERNOR HARE, FULLER'S SUCCESSOR, HAPPY. HE WROTE TO LORD MINTO —

I BELIEVE THE MOHAMMEDANS WILL UNITE TO A MAN AND WILL ABSOLUTELY BOYCOTT HINDUS, IF SO ORDERED BY THEIR LEADERS.



HARE MET SEVERAL MUSLIM ZAMINDARS AND MULLAS

AS CURZON SAAB SAID THIS NEW PROVINCE IS CREATED SPECIALLY TO SAFEGUARD YOUR INTERESTS. YOU MUST SPEAK UP IN FAVOUR OF PARTITION.



THE COMMON PEASANTS WERE NOT INTERESTED IN THE POLITICS OF PARTITION.

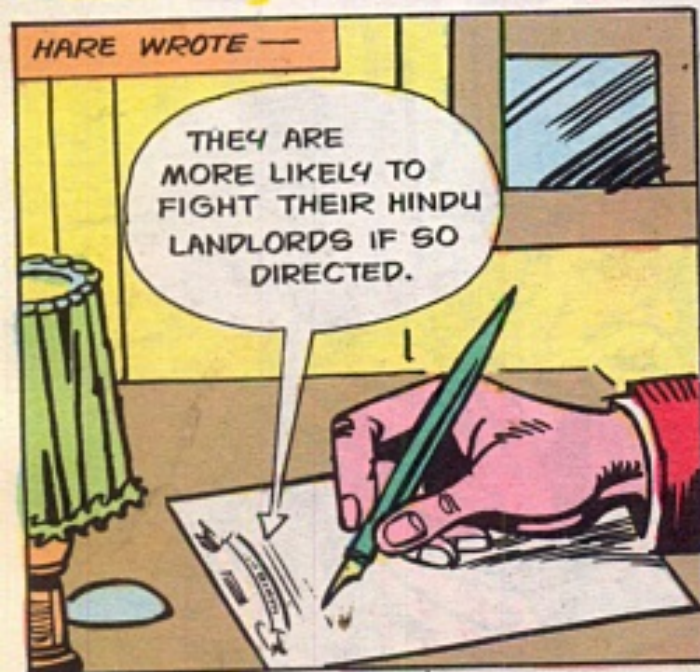
ALL NEW SCHEMES BENEFIT ONLY ONE PERSON—THE ZAMINDAR, BE HE A HINDU OR A MUSLIM.

I AGREE. BUT MUST WE PAY ENHANCED RATES? CAN WE AFFORD IT?



HARE WROTE —

THEY ARE MORE LIKELY TO FIGHT THEIR HINDU LANDLORDS IF SO DIRECTED.



THE ANGER AGAINST ZAMINDARS WAS ALREADY THERE. IT NEEDED ONLY A SPARK TO EXPLODE. AND EXPLODE IT DID. MUSLIM SERVANTS DEFIED THEIR MASTERS—



... AND RIOTS BROKE OUT IN COMILLA, MYMENSINGH AND A COUPLE OF OTHER PLACES.

HOUSES OF ZAMINDARS AND MONEY-LENDERS WERE RANSACKED, GRAIN LOOTED AND PROMISSORY NOTES SET ON FIRE.



IN SEVERAL PLACES PEASANTS HAPPENED TO BE MUSLIMS AND THE LANDLORDS HINDUS. HOWEVER HINDU PEASANTS ALSO JOINED IN THE PLUNDER, AND MUSLIM PEASANTS DID NOT HESITATE IN LOOTING MUSLIM LANDLORDS.



IT WAS A CASE OF PLUNDER OF THE RICH BY THE POOR.

ON HEARING THE NEWS OF THE RIOTS, LIAKAT HUSAIN RUSHED TO MUMBAI.



THE POLICE FOUND URDU PAMPHLETS.



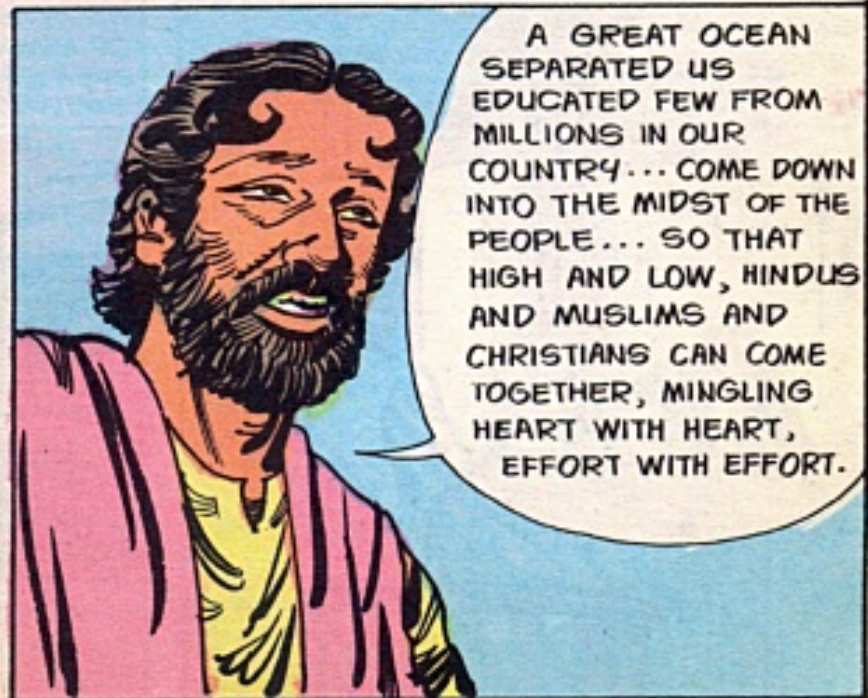
THE BRITISH OFFICIALS WERE HAPPY.



SEVERAL NATIONAL LEADERS BLAMED THE GOVERNMENT FOR INCITING THE MUSLIMS.



TAGORE DECLARED —



MEANWHILE A FEW YOUNG MEN WERE GETTING IMPATIENT. THEY FORMED REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS AND DECIDED TO STRIKE ALTHOUGH THEY KNEW THEY WERE NO MATCH FOR THE BRITISH POWER.



SUSHIL KUMAR, A 15-YEAR-OLD LAD WHO COULD NOT TOLERATE A BRITISH OFFICIAL WIELDING A LATHI ON AN UNARMED CROWD...



...WRESTED THE LATHI FROM THE HANDS OF THE SURPRISED OFFICIAL...



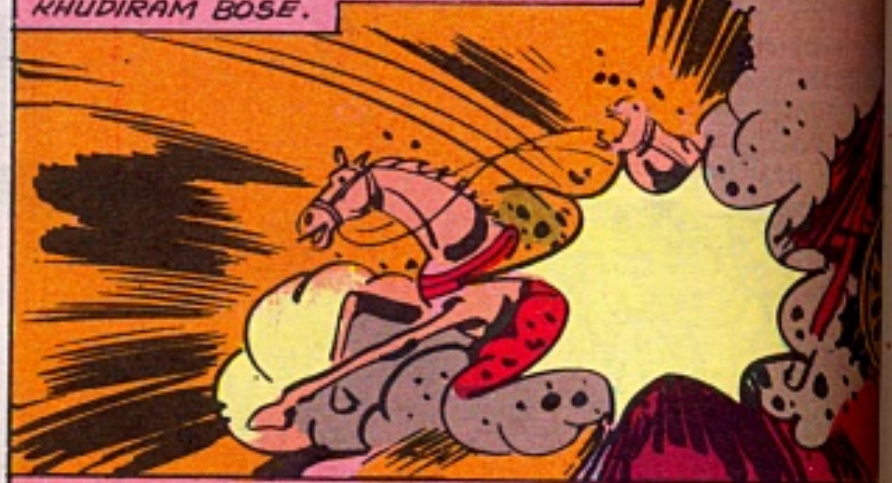
...AND USED IT ON THE BRITISH OFFICIAL HIMSELF.



SUSHIL WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. * MAGISTRATE KINGSFORD AWARDED HIM 16 LASHES.



AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE ON THE LIFE OF KINGSFORD, WHEN THE FIRST EVER BOMB WAS HURLED BY KHUDIRAM BOSE.



... BUT KINGSFORD BEING IN ANOTHER CARRIAGE ESCAPED UNHURT. TWO BRITISH LADIES FELL VICTIM TO THE FIRST BOMB ATTACK.

PARFULLA CHAKI, A MEMBER OF THE BOMB SQUAD
KILLED HIMSELF, WHEN HIS ARREST SEEMED
IMMINENT...



...AND KHUDIRAM BOSE, THE OTHER REVOLUTIONARY,
STOOD TRIAL.



KHUDIRAM WAS SENTENCED TO DEATH.



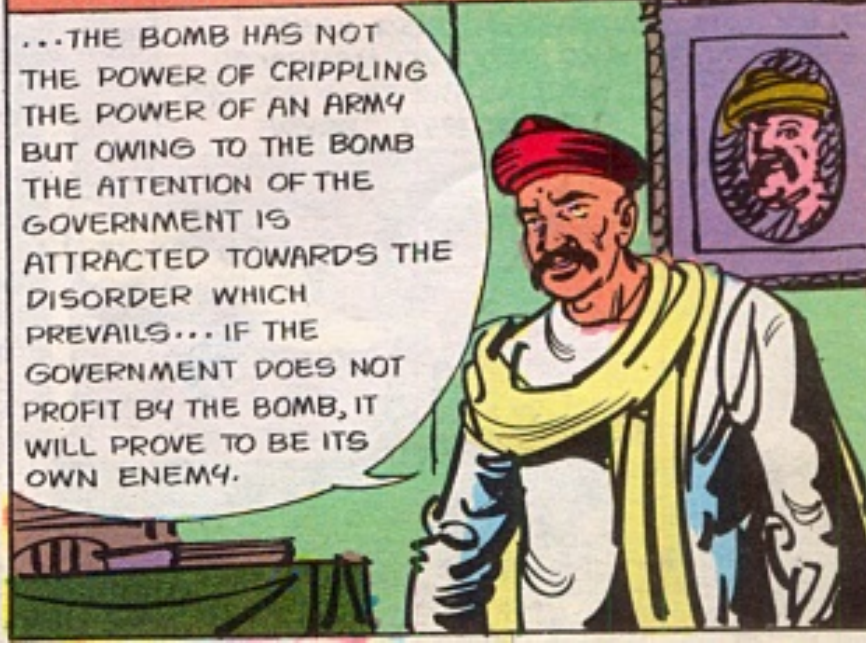
KHUDIRAM'S MARTYRDOM WAS LIKE THE
EXPLOSION OF A BOMB. IT AWAKENED HIS
COUNTRYMEN FROM THEIR SLUMBER.



HE MOUNTED THE SCAFFOLD WITH HIS HEAD
HELD HIGH. HE WAS CHEERFUL AND SMILING
IN THE FACE OF DEATH.



BAL GANGADHAR TILAK DECLARED —



MANY REVOLUTIONARIES WERE ROUNDED UP AND AUROBINDO GHOSH WAS ALSO IMPLICATED IN THE CASE. HIS FRIEND C.R. DAS SAID IN THE COURT—

MY APPEAL TO YOU THEREFORE IS THAT A MAN LIKE THIS... STANDS TRIAL NOT ONLY BEFORE THIS BAR, BUT BEFORE THE HIGH COURT OF HISTORY. LONG AFTER THIS CONTROVERSY IS HUSHED... THE WORLD WILL LOOK UPON HIM AS A PROPHET OF NATIONALISM AND A LOVER OF HUMANITY.

IN PUNE, TILAK WROTE AN EDITORIAL ON THE 'BOMB CASE':

केसरी.

"THE BOMB PARTY HAS COME INTO EXISTENCE AS A RESULT OF THE OPPRESSION PRACTISED BY THE OFFICIAL CLASS... THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS CALAMITY MUST, THEREFORE, BE THROWN NOT ON POLITICAL AGITATION, WRITINGS, OR SPEECHES BUT ON THE THOUGHTLESSNESS AND THE OBSTINACY OF THE OFFICIAL CLASS."

THE GOVERNMENT ARRESTED TILAK ON THE CHARGES OF SEDITION.

... FOR ME IT CAN ONLY BE A MATTER OF A FEW YEARS, BUT FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL LOOK TO YOUR VERDICT AND SEE WHETHER YOU HAVE JUDGED WRONG OR RIGHT. THE VERDICT MAY LIKELY BE A MEMORABLE ONE IN THE HISTORY OF THE FREEDOM OF THE INDIAN PRESS...

TILAK WAS SENTENCED TO SIX YEARS' DEPORTATION AND SENT TO MANDALAY. AS A PROTEST, MILL WORKERS IN BOMBAY STRUCK WORK FOR SIX DAYS. "VANDE MATARAM" WROTE:

GO, TILAK, WHEREVER YOU MAY BE SENT TO CRUSH YOUR BODY... THE CANKER OF THE CHAINS WILL NOT ONLY EAT INTO YOUR LIMBS BUT ALSO INTO EVERY HEART OF THE COUNTRY TO STIR IT UP TO ITS DUTY. YOU HAVE FULFILLED YOUR MISSION...



THE STORY OF THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE

SIMILARLY NINE REVOLUTIONARIES OF BENGAL WERE DEPORTED. BUT THE REVOLUTIONARIES BETRAYED NO FEAR. WHEN ULLASKAR DUTTA ON TRIAL FOR LIFE, BROKE OUT INTO A PATRIOTIC SONG THE WHOLE COURT STOOD UP IN HIS HONOUR.



BLESSED IS MY BIRTH THAT I AM BORN IN THIS LAND. BLESSED IS MY LIFE, FOR I LOVE YOU, O MY MOTHERLAND.

ANOTHER REVOLUTIONARY, HEMACHANDRA LEFT FOR THE ANDAMANS WITH A SMILE ON HIS FACE.



MEANWHILE VINAYAK DAMODAR SAVARKAR AND HIS TEAM OF REVOLUTIONARIES WERE OPERATING FROM INDIA HOUSE IN LONDON.



WE HAVE SENT BOMB MANUALS TO INDIA. OUR FRIENDS NEED MORE GUNS.

IN 1907 AT THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST CONGRESS, SAVARKAR'S ASSOCIATE, MADAM CHHA UNFURLED THE INDIAN FLAG.

THIS FLAG, THE FLAG OF INDIAN INDEPENDENCE, IS SANCTIFIED BY THE BLOOD OF MARTYRED INDIAN YOUTHS. I CALL UPON YOU, GENTLEMEN, TO RISE AND SALUTE IT.



THE WHOLE ASSEMBLY STOOD UP AS ONE MAN.

SAVARKAR WROTE THE HISTORY OF THE REVOLT OF 1857.

THAT WAS NO MUTINY. IT WAS THE FIRST WAR OF INDEPENDENCE.



HE REMAINED UNDAUNTED WHEN IN HIS HOME-COUNTRY HIS ELDER BROTHER GANESH SAVARKAR WAS SENTENCED TO TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE. HOWEVER, HIS ASSOCIATE MADANLAL DHINGRA WAS FURIOUS.

VIOLENCE SHALL BE MET WITH VIOLENCE. THE OPPRESSION OF MY COUNTRYMEN WILL NOT GO UNAVENGED.



MADANLAL DHINGRA SHOT SIR CURZON WYLLIE, THE ADVISER TO THE GOVERNMENT ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.



DHINGRA DEFENDED HIS ACT.

I SHED ENGLISH BLOOD ON ENGLISH SOIL INTENTIONALLY AND ON PURPOSE AS A PROTEST AGAINST THE INHUMAN TRANSPORTATION AND HANGING OF INDIAN YOUTH.



LATER, IN A STATEMENT HE EXPLAINED-

I BELIEVE THAT A NATION HELD DOWN BY A FOREIGN BAYONET IS IN A PERPETUAL STATE OF WAR. SINCE OPEN BATTLE IS RENDERED IMPOSSIBLE TO A DISARMED PEOPLE THE ONLY LESSON REQUIRED IN INDIA AT PRESENT IS TO LEARN HOW TO DIE AND THE ONLY WAY TO TEACH IT IS BY DYING OURSELVES.



MEANWHILE IN INDIA, JACKSON, THE BRITISH COLLECTOR OF NASIK, WHO HAD TAKEN GANESH SAVARKAR INTO CUSTODY, WAS SHOT DEAD.



VINAYAK SAVARKAR HIMSELF WAS ARRESTED ON MARCH 10, 1910, AT VICTORIA STATION IN LONDON...



SAVARKAR MADE A DARING ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE WHILE BEING BROUGHT TO INDIA.



HOWEVER, HE WAS CAPTURED AND PRODUCED BEFORE A SPECIAL TRIBUNAL IN BOMBAY IN 1910.

WE FIND THE ACCUSED GUILTY OF ABETMENT OF WAGING WAR BY INSTIGATION, BY THE CIRCULATION OF PRINTED MATTER INCITING WAR, PROVIDING OF ARMS, AND DISTRIBUTION OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF EXPLOSIVES.



SAVARKAR WAS SENTENCED TO TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE.

I AM PREPARED TO PAY UNGRUDGINGLY THE EXTREME PENALTY OF YOUR LAWS IN THE BELIEF THAT IT IS THROUGH SUFFERING AND SACRIFICE ALONE THAT OUR BELOVED MOTHERLAND CAN MARCH ON TO BE ASSURED. IF NOT SPEEDY, TRIUMPH



WITH THE DEPARTURE OF SAVARKAR, LONDON CEASED TO BE AN IMPORTANT CENTRE FOR REVOLUTIONARIES ABROAD. IT YIELDED PLACE TO SAN FRANCISCO FROM WHERE LALA HARDAYAL LAUNCHED THE GHADAR* PARTY. IN 1913, HE LAUNCHED ITS PUBLICATION "GHADAR."

WHAT IS OUR NAME? GHADAR.
WHAT IS OUR WORK? GHADAR.
WHERE WILL GHADAR BREAK
OUT? IN INDIA. WHEN? IN
A FEW YEARS.



WHY GHADAR?
BECAUSE THE PEOPLE
CAN NO LONGER BEAR
THE OPPRESSION AND
TYRANNY PRACTISED
UNDER THE ENGLISH
RULE AND ARE READY
TO FIGHT AND DIE
FOR FREEDOM.

LALA HARDAYAL AND HIS FRIENDS
CHAMPIONED THE CAUSE OF INDIA'S
FREEDOM IN AMERICA. THEY COLLECTED
MONEY, BOUGHT AND SENT HOME ARMS
AND AMMUNITION. THEY TRAINED BATCHES
OF SIKHS IN WIELDING
FIRE ARMS.



AROUND THIS TIME A GROUP OF OVER
350 SIKHS CHARTERED THE SHIP KOMAGATAMARU
TO SAIL FOR CANADA AND SETTLE IN THAT COUNTRY.



THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES REFUSED SIKH
PASSENGERS ENTRY AND THE SHIP SAILED
BACK TO INDIA.



WHEN THE PASSENGERS CAME TO CALCUTTA THEY
WERE SUBJECTED TO MUCH HARASSMENT. WITHOUT
ANY PROVOCATION THE POLICE OPENED FIRE ON THEM.



THE INDISCRIMINATE KILLING OF THE INNOCENT SIKHS OF KOMAGATAMARU HAD ITS REPERCUSSIONS IN AMERICA.

WE ARE NOW READY TO RETURN TO OUR COUNTRY, TO SHOOT AND KILL OUR OPPRESSORS.

IN INDIA THE STAGE WAS SET FOR AN ARMED RISING UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF RASH BEHARI BOSE IN LAHORE.

THE TIME IS CERTAINLY RIFE FOR AN ARMED UPRISING AS BRITAIN IS BUSY WITH THE WAR IN EUROPE.

RASH BEHARI AND HIS COMRADES PLANNED A MASS UPRISING IN THE NORTH-EAST ON FEBRUARY 21, 1915.

TWENTY-SIX CANTONMENTS ARE PREPARING TO REVOLT.

THE SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO CAPTURE THEIR ENGLISH OFFICERS AND TO LOOT THE TREASURIES. THE GHADAR MEN WILL LAUNCH A SIMULTANEOUS ATTACK.

IN CALCUTTA, JATIN MUKHERJI, THE LEADER OF THE REVOLUTIONARIES, HAD SET UP A COMPANY TO CAMOUFLAGE ACTIVITIES.

YOU ARE NO LONGER WORKING FOR THE GOVERNMENT, I HEARD.

I'M NOT. I'M GOING INTO BUSINESS. THAT'S MY FIRM DECISION. BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

HE WAS IN CONTACT WITH RASH BEHARI BOSE, THEN ACTIVE IN PUNJAB.

HOW IS THE BUILDING WORK GOING ON IN THE PUNJAB?

OUR PEOPLE ARE ASKING FOR MORE MATERIAL.

WE ARE DOING OUR BEST. WE ARE IMPORTING MATERIAL FROM RUSSIA, GERMANY AND JAPAN.

RASH BEHARI BOSE FINALISED THE PLAN.

FEBRUARY 21, 1915. THAT'S THE DAY WE STRIKE. THE FIRST SHOT WILL BE FIRED IN THE PUNJAB.

BUT BEFORE THE FIRST SHOT WAS FIRED —

POLICE!

ONE OF THE REVOLUTIONARIES HAD TURNED A TRAITOR.

THE POLICE CAPTURED SEVERAL PROMINENT REVOLUTIONARIES IN THE RAID. BUT RASH BEHARI BOSE GOT AWAY.

LATER HE SAILED FOR JAPAN AND CONTINUED HIS STRUGGLE FROM THERE.

IN CALCUTTA THE POLICE RAIDED THE OFFICE OF JATIN MUKHERJI.

OUR BIRD HAS FLOWN.

BUT WHERE COULD HE HAVE GONE?

JATIN HAD GONE UNDERGROUND AND WAS DIRECTING REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES FROM HIS HIDEOUT AT KAPTIPADA, 60 KMS. FROM BALASORE IN ORISSA.

THE FIGHT WILL GO ON. I EXPECT ARMS AND AMMUNITION FROM OUR FRIENDS IN GERMANY.

JATIN MADE ELABORATE PLANS FOR THE RISING IN BENGAL AND ORISSA.

JATIN'S ASSOCIATES HAD OPENED A COMPANY IN CALCUTTA TO SMUGGLE ARMS INTO THE COUNTRY.



HOWEVER, PLANS TO BRING ARMS BY THE SHIP MAVERICK FAILED TO MATERIALISE. THE POLICE WHO RAIDED HARRY & CO. FOUND A CLUE WHICH PUT THEM ON JATIN'S TRAIL.



WE WILL SOON HAVE COMPANY.

JATIN AND HIS MEN TOOK POSITIONS ON A HILLOCK IN BALASORE.

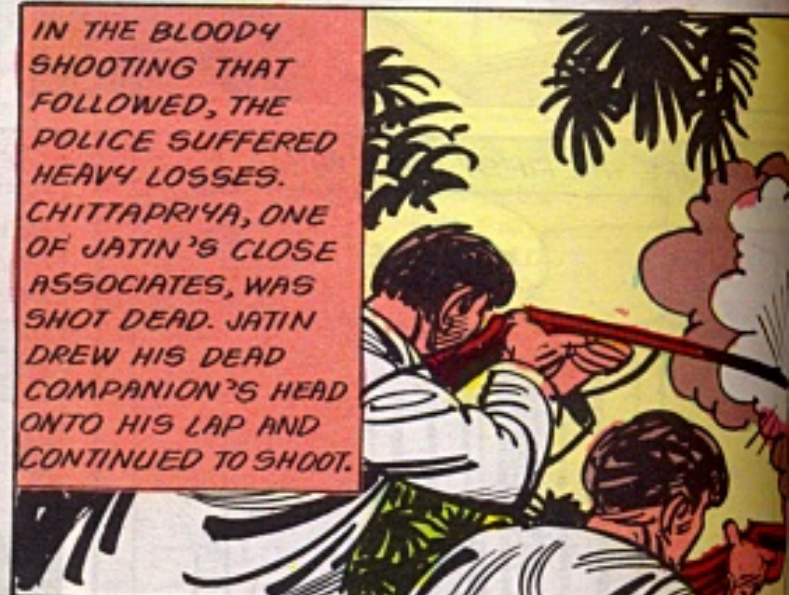
DADA, EVEN NOW IT IS NOT LATE. YOU MUST ESCAPE.

DADA, FOR THE SAKE OF THE COUNTRY YOU MUST SAVE YOUR LIFE.

DON'T WORRY, IF ONE JATIN FALLS, A THOUSAND MORE WILL RISE.



IN THE BLOODY SHOOTING THAT FOLLOWED, THE POLICE SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES. CHITTAPRIYA, ONE OF JATIN'S CLOSE ASSOCIATES, WAS SHOT DEAD. JATIN DREW HIS DEAD COMPANION'S HEAD ONTO HIS LAP AND CONTINUED TO SHOOT.



SUDDENLY ALL WAS QUIET.

I THINK THEY HAVE EXHAUSTED THEIR BULLETS.



OH GOD, WHAT A GHASTLY SIGHT.



JATIN WAS TAKEN TO HOSPITAL WHERE HE DIED ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1915. TEGART, THE POLICE COMMISSIONER, WHOSE MISSION WAS TO CAPTURE JATIN, WAS AT THE BEDSIDE WHEN THE END CAME.

I HAVE MET THE BRAVEST OF INDIANS IN YOU, MR. MUKHERJI. BUT... I HAD TO DO... MY DUTY.



MEANWHILE A NEW STAR HAD STARTED SHINING ON THE HORIZON — MOHANDAS KARAMCHAND GANDHI. HE HAD ARRIVED IN INDIA AFTER AN EVENTFUL STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID IN AFRICA, IN JANUARY 1915. AFTER A YEAR OF POLITICAL SILENCE, HE MADE A MAJOR POLITICAL SPEECH DURING THE CELEBRATIONS, HELD IN FEBRUARY 1916 IN VARANASI TO CELEBRATE THE FOUNDING OF THE BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY.

BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY 1916



HE SPOKE AGAINST THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REVOLUTIONARIES —

I WOULD SAY TO THEM THAT THEIR ANARCHISM HAS NO ROOM IN INDIA IF INDIA IS TO CONQUER THE CONQUEROR. IT IS A SIGN OF FEAR... I HONOUR THE ANARCHIST FOR HIS BRAVERY IN BEING WILLING TO DIE FOR HIS COUNTRY: BUT I ASK HIM, IS KILLING HONOURABLE?



INDIA HEARD THIS FEARLESS VOICE AND KNEW THAT SOMEONE DIFFERENT HAD ENTERED THE SCENE.

THE POET RABINDRANATH TAGORE HAILED HIM AS MAHATMA, AND THE POOR LOOKED UP TO HIM.

MAHATMAJI, I AM FROM CHAMPARAN DISTRICT, BIHAR. OUR ENGLISH LANDLORDS FORCED US TO GROW INDIGO. NOW THAT SYNTHETIC INDIGO HAS BEEN DISCOVERED THEY FORCE US TO PAY THEM COMPENSATION FOR NOT GROWING IT ANY LONGER. HELP US.



GANDHI WENT TO CHAMPARAN. THE GOVERNMENT ORDERED HIM TO LEAVE, WHICH HE REFUSED TO DO. HE WOULD INSTEAD GO WILLINGLY TO JAIL. THE NEWS SPREAD.

A LAWYER MAHATMA HAS COME, WHO IS GOING TO JAIL FOR OUR SAKE.

HE WANTS NOTHING FROM US; ONLY JUSTICE FOR US FROM THE ENGLISH.



AND THE VILLAGERS GATHERED IN CROWDS ROUND THE COURTHOUSE, STIRRED BY AN ANCIENT INDIAN MEMORY, DEAD NOW FOR CENTURIES, THAT A LEADER MUST BE FATHER TO HIS PEOPLE. HERE HE WAS — BAPU.*



GANDHI SUCCEEDED IN CONFOUNDING BOTH THE MAGISTRATE AND THE PLEADER AND WAS QUICKLY RELEASED. THEN QUIETLY, POLITELY, PAINSTAKINGLY, HE WORKED TO MAKE THE LANDLORDS RETURN PART OF WHAT THEY HAD FORCIBLY TAKEN FROM THE PEASANTS. HE HAD SHOWN THE PEASANTS, COWERING TILL NOW UNDER BRITISH AUTHORITY, THAT THEY NEED FEAR IT NO LONGER. IT WAS HERE THAT HE MET RAJENDRA PRASAD AND J.B. KRIPALANI.

GANDHI NEXT TOOK UP THE CAUSE OF AHMEDABAD'S POORLY PAID MILL WORKERS WHO WERE ASKING FOR A RAISE IN WAGES. THEY PLEDGED TO CONTINUE THE STRIKE TILL THE MILL-OWNERS AGREED TO THE RAISE.



THE OWNERS STOOD FIRM. THE WORKERS BEGAN TO TIRE. GANDHI WAS UPSET; THEY MUST NOT GIVE UP NOW. HOW COULD HE CONVINCE THEM?



AND THE NEXT MOMENT—

FRIENDS, UNDER OUR EK TEK* TREE, I ANNOUNCE THIS: I SHALL NOT TOUCH FOOD BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT UNITED IN YOUR PLEDGE.

BAPU, NO! DO NOT DO THIS; NOT FOR OUR SAKE.



FOR THE FIRST TIME, THROUGH A FAST, THROUGH SELF-DENIAL, A LEADER WAS PLAYING A DEEPLY PERSONAL ROLE, OF PARENT TO HIS CHILDREN.

THIS FAST IS NOT TO BLACKMAIL THE MILL-OWNERS. I HAVE CLEARLY TOLD THEM THAT. IT IS FOR THE WELFARE OF THE WORKERS.



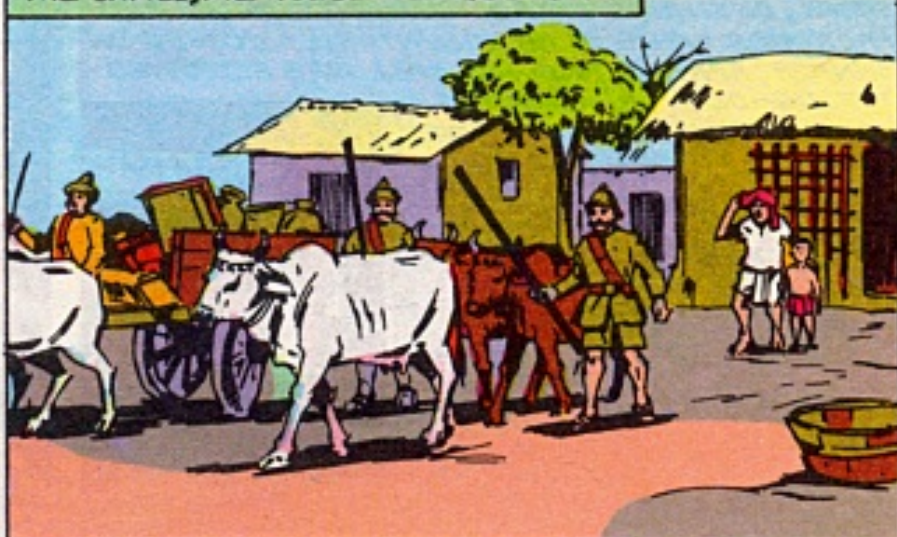
FINALLY, THE MILL-OWNERS RELENTED. IT WAS AS IF THEY HAD BEEN REMINDED THAT IT WAS ONLY A PATERNAL EMPLOYER WHO REALLY SUCCEEDED.

AFTER THIS CAME THE ISSUE OF THE CULTIVATORS OF KHEDA DISTRICT TO THE SOUTH-EAST OF AHMEDABAD. OWING TO EXCESSIVE RAIN DURING THE PREVIOUS MONSOON, THE CROPS HAD FALLEN BELOW THE NORMAL LEVEL.



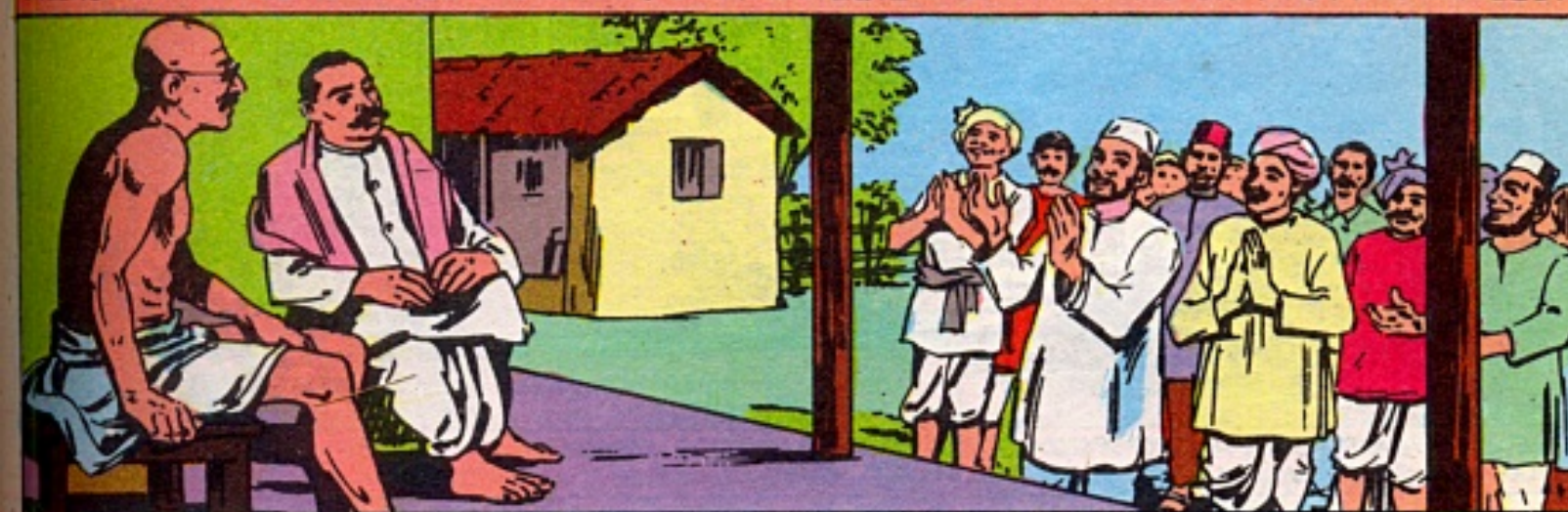
THE PEOPLE DEMANDED THAT THE COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE SHOULD BE POSTPONED TO THE NEXT YEAR. BUT THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT AGREE TO THIS.

GANDHI ADVISED THE CULTIVATORS NOT TO PAY THE LAND REVENUE. THE GOVERNMENT CONFISCATED THE CATTLE, THE HOUSEHOLD GOODS...



... AND EVEN THE STANDING CROPS IN THE FIELDS OF THOSE WHO DID NOT PAY.

THIS RESULTED IN MUCH SUFFERING AMONG THE FARMERS, TILL, UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE VICEROY, THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY CHANGED ITS POLICY AND THE COLLECTOR OF KHEDA INFORMED GANDHI THAT THE CULTIVATORS WHO WERE TOO POOR TO PAY WOULD NOT BE FORCED TO DO SO. THE FIGHT WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE OF GUJARAT IN SATYAGRAHA, A LESSON IN COURAGE AND SELF-SACRIFICE. AND IT GAVE THEM A NEW LEADER, VALLABHBHAI PATEL WHO BECAME GANDHI'S LOYAL LIEUTENANT IN ALL HIS SATYAGRAHA BATTLES.



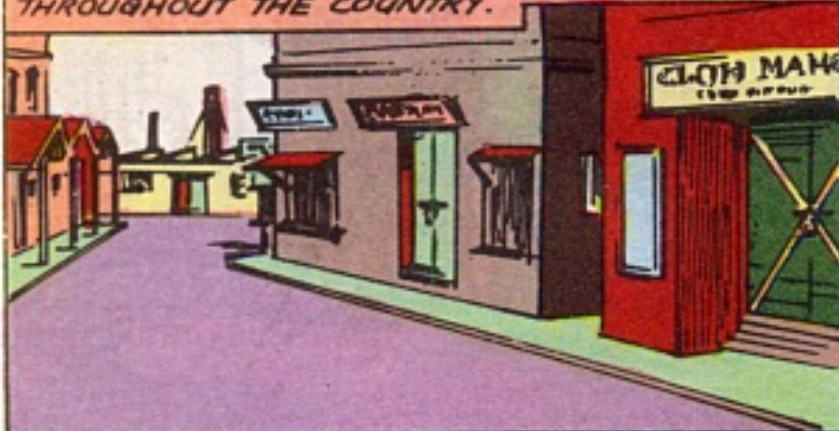
SOON AFTER THIS, ALTHOUGH LOKAMANYA TILAK WAS AGAINST IT, GANDHI HELPED ENGLAND RECRUIT SOLDIERS FOR WORLD WAR-I. THE MESSAGE WAS CLEAR- DO UNTO US AS WE DO UNTO YOU. INDIA WANTED HOME RULE IN FAIR EXCHANGE FOR HER WAR EFFORTS. BUT AT THE END OF THE WAR-

THE BRITISH HAVE PASSED THE ROWLATT ACTS TO KILL THE PEOPLE'S SPIRIT OF FREEDOM. THE HARSH WAR-TIME MEASURES ARE TO CONTINUE.

IS THIS OUR REWARD FOR ALL THE BLOOD INDIANS SPILT FOR THEM IN THE WAR?

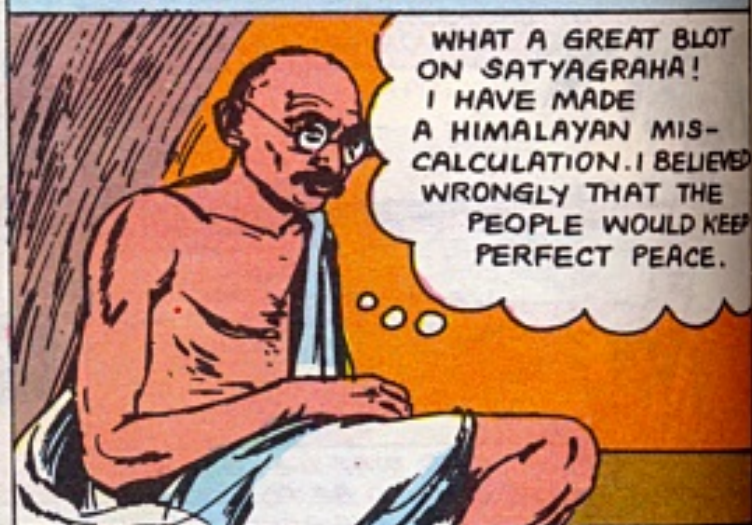


IN PROTEST, GANDHI TOOK HIS FIRST MAJOR POLITICAL STEP IN INDIA. HE CALLED FOR A NATION-WIDE SATYAGRAHA; A HARTAL. ALL SHOPS, BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS, MILLS AND FACTORIES WERE TO BE VOLUNTARILY CLOSED ON SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 1919. THE CALL WAS FOLLOWED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.



A NATION COMING PEACEFULLY TO A HALT WAS QUITE A SPECTACLE.

GANDHI WAS ARRESTED ON APRIL 9. AS A REACTION THERE WAS VIOLENCE IN SOME PLACES - DELHI, AMRITSAR, AHMEDABAD AND VIRAMGAM. GANDHI WAS DEEPLY PAINED.



HE CALLED OFF THE SATYAGRAHA.

THEN CAME APRIL 13, BAISAKHI, AND THE MASSACRE AT JALLIANWALA BAGH IN AMRITSAR. AN ARMY OFFICER, GENERAL DYER, ANGERED BY THE KILLING OF SOME ENGLISHMEN IN THE CITY AND THE ASSAULT ON AN ENGLISH WOMAN ON THE 10TH BY AN EXCITED CROWD, WANTED TO PUNISH THE PEOPLE. UNDER HIS ORDERS SEPOYS FIRED ON AN UNARMED CROWD AND KILLED MORE THAN A THOUSAND PEOPLE AND WOUNDED MORE THAN THREE THOUSAND.



THE SOLDIERS FIRED 1650 ROUNDS IN TEN MINUTES, AND STOPPED ONLY WHEN THEY HAD NO MORE AMMUNITION.

ON APRIL 15, MARTIAL LAW WAS IMPOSED IN MANY PARTS OF THE PUNJAB. COLLEGE STUDENTS IN LAHORE WERE FORCED TO WALK SEVERAL MILES IN THE HOT SUN TO ATTEND CUMPULSORY ROLL CALL TWICE A DAY.



SOME WERE FLOGGED IN PUBLIC.



AND THE PEOPLE PASSING THROUGH THE STREET IN WHICH THE ENGLISHWOMAN WAS ASSAULTED WERE FORCED TO CRAWL ON THEIR BELLIES.



THE REIGN OF TERROR LASTED SIX WEEKS. BECAUSE OF THE MARTIAL LAW, FOR MANY DAYS, THE REST OF THE COUNTRY DID NOT KNOW WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN PUNJAB. BUT SLOWLY THE HORROR STORIES SPREAD, AND THE PEOPLE WERE SHOCKED.

ONE DISTRICT WAS BOMBED FROM THE AIR.



RESPECTABLE CITIZENS WERE ARRESTED WITHOUT WARRANT AND HANDCUFFED.

GANDHI WAS NOT ALLOWED TO GO TO PUNJAB FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. WHEN AT LAST HE WENT THERE IN OCTOBER, FIRST TO LAHORE AND THEN TO AMRITSAR, LARGE CROWDS WELCOMED HIM.



LOSING HIS FAITH OF MANY YEARS IN THE BRITISH PEOPLE'S SENSE OF JUSTICE, GANDHI NOW TURNED A DETERMINED REBEL AGAINST BRITISH RULE IN INDIA. HE CALLED IT 'SATANIC' AND ASKED HINDUS AND MUSLIMS TO UNITE AGAINST IT AND NOT CO-OPERATE WITH IT IN ANY WAY. LOKAMANYA TILAK HAD DIED IN 1920. THIS HAD MADE GANDHI THE UNDISPUTED LEADER OF THE CONGRESS.



I AM NOT ANTI-BRITISH, BUT I AM ANTI-UNTRUTH AND ANTI-INJUSTICE. SO LONG AS THE GOVERNMENT SPELLS INJUSTICE, IT MAY REGARD ME AS ITS ENEMY; IMPLACABLE ENEMY.



PROCLAIM TO THE GOVERNMENT: "YOU MAY HANG US ON THE GALLOWS, YOU MAY SEND US TO PRISON, BUT YOU WILL GET NO CO-OPERATION FROM US."

THE NON-CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME LAUNCHED BY GANDHI WAS BASED ON HIS BELIEF IN NON-VIOLENCE. IT MEANT REFUSAL TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN ANY MANNER AND INVOLVED THE BOYCOTT OF BRITISH COURTS, SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES, THE SURRENDERING OF BRITISH HONOURS AND TITLES, AND THE BOYCOTT OF BRITISH GOODS.

GANDHI TRAVELLED FOR A WHOLE YEAR THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO PROPAGATE HIS IDEAS. AND THE MASSES WERE STIRRED BY HIS MESSAGE.

BOYCOTT FOREIGN CLOTH.

DOWN WITH BRITISH IMPERIALISM!

VANDE MATARAM.

INQILAB ZINDABAD.



BUT PEOPLE HAD NOT YET LEARNT THE LESSON OF NON-VIOLENCE. ON THE ARRIVAL OF THE PRINCE OF WALES IN BOMBAY ON NOVEMBER 17, 1921, RIOTS BROKE OUT IN THE CITY.

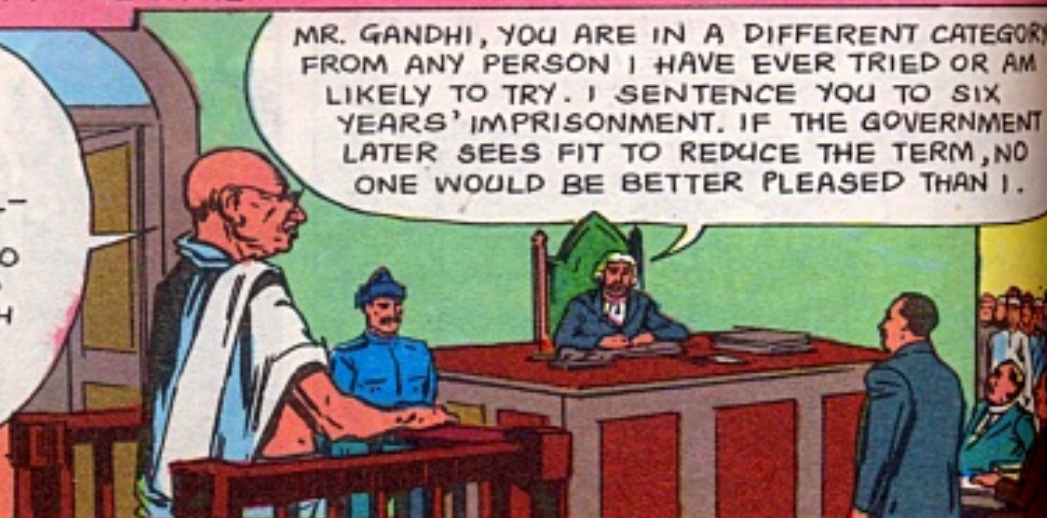


THERE WERE VIOLENT INCIDENTS IN MADRAS IN JANUARY 1922, AND THEN IN CHAURI CHAURA NEAR GORAKHPUR IN UTTAR PRADESH IN FEBRUARY. AS IN APRIL 1919, THIS TIME ALSO GANDHI DECIDED TO SUSPEND THE NON-CO-OPERATION MOVEMENT.

THE SUDDEN SUSPENSION OF THE NON-CO-OPERATION MOVEMENT BY GANDHI, CAUSED CONFUSION AND DIVISION AMONG HIS FOLLOWERS. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION, THE GOVERNMENT ARRESTED GANDHI ON MARCH 10. AT THE TRIAL —

I PLEAD GUILTY... I WANTED TO AVOID VIOLENCE... I KNOW THAT MY PEOPLE HAVE SOMETIMES GONE MAD. I AM DEEPLY SORRY FOR IT. I HAVE NO PERSONAL ILL-WILL AGAINST ANY SINGLE ADMINISTRATOR. BUT I HOLD IT TO BE A VIRTUE TO BE DISAFFECTED TOWARDS A GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS DONE MORE HARM TO INDIA THAN ANY PREVIOUS SYSTEM. I INVITE THE HIGHEST PENALTY.

MR. GANDHI, YOU ARE IN A DIFFERENT CATEGORY FROM ANY PERSON I HAVE EVER TRIED OR AM LIKELY TO TRY. I SENTENCE YOU TO SIX YEARS' IMPRISONMENT. IF THE GOVERNMENT LATER SEES FIT TO REDUCE THE TERM, NO ONE WOULD BE BETTER PLEASED THAN I.



AFTER TWO YEARS IN YERAVDA PRISON, GANDHI HAD TO UNDERGO AN OPERATION FOR APPENDICITIS. AFTER WHICH HE WAS RELEASED. THOUGH FREE, FOR THE REMAINING FOUR YEARS, GANDHI CARRIED ON NO ACTIVE AGITATION AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. INSTEAD, HE DEVOTED HIS TIME TO SPREADING KHADI AND THE REMOVAL OF UNTOUCHABILITY.

MEANWHILE THE REVOLUTION-
WAS CARRIED ON WITH THE
STRUGGLE. MANY YOUNG-
STERS BECAME MEMBERS OF
THE HINDUSTAN REPUBLICAN
ASSOCIATION, A REVOLUTION-
ARY ORGANISATION. THEIR
LEADER WAS RAMPRASAD
BISMIL. THE SENIOR MEMBERS
WERE ASHFAQULLA, ROSHAN
SINGH, RAJENDRA LAHIRI
AND CHANDRASHEKHAR AZAD.

LET'S LOOT THE
GOVERNMENT TREASURY
WHILE IT IS BEING
TRANSPORTED BY
TRAIN.

IT WAS THE EVENING OF THE 9TH OF AUGUST,
1925. AT KAKORI, A FEW MILES FROM LUCKNOW
IN UTTAR PRADESH —

DON'T ANY OF YOU DARE
MAKE A SOUND. NO ONE
WILL BE HARMED. WE ARE
ONLY INTERESTED IN THE
STATE TREASURY'S SAFE
THAT IS ON THIS
TRAIN.

THE NEXT DAY —

KAKORI
CONSPIRACY!
KAKORI
CONSPIRACY!

HOWEVER, THE POLICE ROUNDED UP ALL THE
REVOLUTIONARIES WHO HAD TAKEN PART
IN THE TRAIN ROBBERY EXCEPT AZAD.

EVEN IF I HAVE TO FACE
DEATH A THOUSAND TIMES
FOR THE SAKE OF MY
MOTHERLAND, I SHALL NOT
BE SORRY. OH LORD! GRANT
ME A HUNDRED BIRTHS IN
BHARAT. BUT GRANT ME
THIS, TOO, THAT EACH
TIME I MAY GIVE UP MY LIFE
IN THE SERVICE OF THE
MOTHERLAND.

SUCH WAS THE FERVOUR
OF RAMPRASAD BISMIL.

TASADRUK KHAN, THE POLICE
SUPERINTENDENT TRIED TO WIN
OVER ASHFAQULLA.

THE HINDUS ARE
FIGHTING TO WIN BACK
THEIR KINGDOM.
WHY SHOULD
MUSLIMS FIGHT
FOR HINDU
INDIA?

KHAN SAHEB, I AM QUITE SURE HINDU INDIA WILL BE MUCH BETTER THAN BRITISH INDIA.

OF COURSE ASHFAQULLA, BISMIL AND OTHERS WERE FIGHTING FOR ALL OUR COUNTRYMEN. ASHFAQULLA WROTE —

A MAN IS BOUND TO DIE; SO WHY SHOULD ANYONE BE AFRAID OF DEATH? LET OUR MOTHERLAND BECOME FREE... WHAT MATTERS WHETHER WE BE ALIVE OR DEAD?

DEC. 18, 1927: RAJENDRA LAHIRI WAS HANGED.
DEC. 19, 1927: RAMPRASAD BISMIL AND ASHFAQULLA WERE HANGED.
DEC. 20, 1927: ROSHAN SINGH WAS HANGED.

THE HANGINGS STRENGTHENED THE WILL OF AZAD, BHAGAT SINGH AND OTHER REVOLUTIONARIES. THEY CONTINUED THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM. ON BHAGAT SINGH'S SUGGESTION, THEY CALLED THEIR ORGANISATION THE HINDUSTAN SOCIALIST REPUBLICAN ASSOCIATION.

WE WILL ESTABLISH A SOCIETY WHICH IS FREE FROM EXPLOITATION.

WE WANT FREEDOM FOR OUR COUNTRY. WE WILL NOT BEG FOR IT BUT WILL OBTAIN IT AS OUR RIGHT.

THEN, IN FEBRUARY 1928, THE SIMON COMMISSION, APPOINTED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, CAME TO INDIA TO SEE WHAT FURTHER POLITICAL REFORMS MIGHT BE GRANTED. THERE WAS NO INDIAN REPRESENTATION. ALL PARTIES IN THE COUNTRY BOYCOTTED IT. WHEREVER IT WENT —

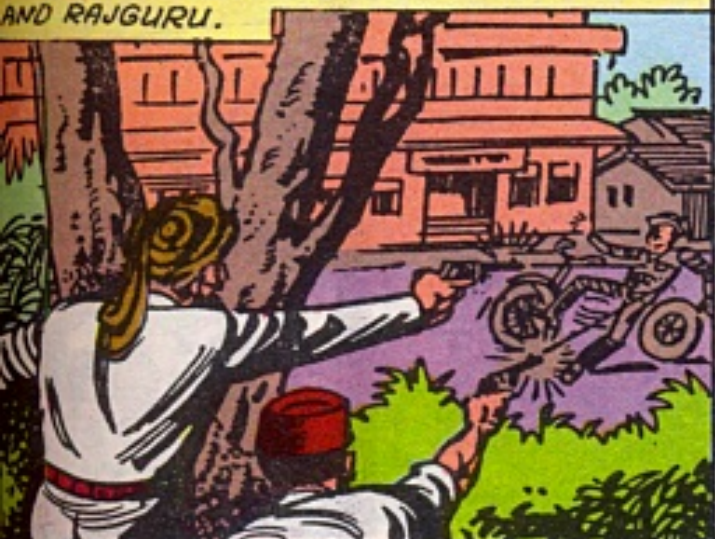
GO BACK SIMON

GO BACK SIMON

GO BACK SIMON

PATRIOTS WHO TOOK OUT PROCESSIONS OF PROTEST WERE BEATEN MERCILESSLY. IN LAHORE, LALA LAJAPATRAI WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED DURING A BOYCOTT PROCESSION. HE DIED A FEW DAYS LATER.

THE REVOLUTIONARIES DECIDED TO AVENGE THE DEATH OF THE LALA. THE MEN CHOSEN FOR THE MISSION WERE BHAGAT SINGH AND RAJGURU.



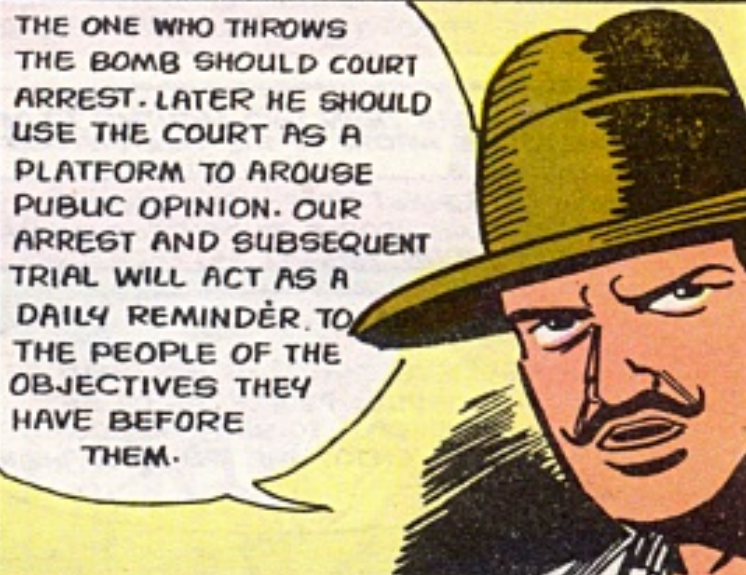
BY THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE WHOLE OF INDIA HAD HEARD OF THE INCIDENT. POSTERS APPEARED ALL OVER LAHORE.



BHAGAT SINGH CAME OUT WITH A PROPOSAL TO AROUSE THE NATION FROM ITS SLUMBER AND COMPEL THE AUTHORITIES TO TAKE NOTICE OF THE DEEP-ROOTED DISCONTENT AMONG THE PEOPLE.



THE ONE WHO THROWS THE BOMB SHOULD COURT ARREST. LATER HE SHOULD USE THE COURT AS A PLATFORM TO AROUSE PUBLIC OPINION. OUR ARREST AND SUBSEQUENT TRIAL WILL ACT AS A DAILY REMINDER TO THE PEOPLE OF THE OBJECTIVES THEY HAVE BEFORE THEM.



APRIL 8, 1929 WAS THE CHOSEN DATE. THE VENUE: THE CENTRAL ASSEMBLY IN DELHI. FROM THE VISITORS' GALLERY BHAGAT SINGH HURLED A BOMB AND HIS COMPANION BATUKESHWAR DUTTA THREW DOWN LEAFLETS.



LATER IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT, ASAF ALI, THE LAWYER, READ OUT THE STATEMENT PREPARED BY BHAGAT SINGH.



A FEW MONTHS LATER, ON DECEMBER 31, 1929, THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS WITH JAWAHARLAL NEHRU PRESIDING, DECLARED COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE, OR POORNA SWARAJ, AS THE GOAL OF INDIA. IN ORDER TO ATTAIN IT...



GANDHI TOOK MORE THAN TWO MONTHS TO DECIDE HOW TO START THE BATTLE. THEN, HAVING MADE UP HIS MIND, HE WROTE TO THE VICEROY LORD IRWIN ON MARCH 2.

AND GANDHI, AS A FIRST STEP IN THE COMING BATTLE, ASKED THE PEOPLE TO TAKE THE PLEDGE OF INDEPENDENCE ON JANUARY 26, 1930.*

WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS THE RIGHT OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE, AS OF ANY OTHER PEOPLE, TO HAVE FREEDOM AND TO ENJOY THE FRUITS OF THEIR TOIL.

... IF INDIA IS TO LIVE AS A NATION, THE SLOW DEATH BY STARVATION OF HER PEOPLE IS TO STOP, SOME REMEDY MUST BE FOUND. IF MY LETTER MAKES NO APPEAL TO YOUR HEART, I SHALL PROCEED WITH SUCH CO-WORKERS OF THE ASHRAM I CAN TAKE, TO DISREGARD THE PROVISIONS OF THE SALT LAWS.

GANDHI'S LETTER DID NOT APPEAL TO THE VICEROY'S HEART, AND SO CAME THE MEMORABLE DAY IN THE HISTORY OF MODERN INDIA-12TH MARCH 1930. AT 6.30 IN THE MORNING AT THE ASHRAM, GANDHI ADDRESSED HIS BAND OF SEVENTY-EIGHT SATYAGRAHIS. WHAT THEY WERE ABOUT TO LAUNCH WAS THE FINAL STRUGGLE.

WE HOPE TO BECOME THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE POOREST OF THE POOR, THE LOWLIEST OF THE LOW, AND WEAKEST OF THE WEAK.

* TWENTY YEARS LATER, IN 1950, THE INDEPENDENCE DAY OF 1930 BECAME THE REPUBLIC DAY OF FREE INDIA.

AS THE SIXTYONE-YEAR-OLD GANDHI STEPPED OUT OF THE ASHRAM, A GREAT SHIVER OF EXCITEMENT RAN THROUGH THE CROWD.



WROTE THE "BOMBAY CHRONICLE":

THE SCENES THAT PRECEDED, ACCOMPANIED AND FOLLOWED THIS NATIONAL EVENT WERE SO MAGNIFICENT AND SOUL-STIRRING THAT THEY BEGGAR DESCRIPTION.

SAID JAWAHARLAL NEHRU:



TODAY THE PILGRIM MARCHES ONWARD ON HIS LONG TREK. STAFF IN HAND, HE GOES...CLEAR-EYED AND FIRM OF STEP, THE FIRE OF A GREAT RESOLVE IS IN HIM AND SURPASSING LOVE OF HIS MISERABLE COUNTRY-MEN.



THOUSANDS GATHERED TO WELCOME THE MAHATMA AT EVERY VILLAGE ON THE ROUTE. TO ALL OF THEM GANDHI SAID THE SAME THING—

SPIN EVERY DAY AND WEAR KHADI. ABOLISH UNTOUCHABILITY BANISH THE EVIL OF DRINK.



WALKING A DISTANCE OF THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY FIVE KM IN TWENTY-FOUR DAYS, GANDHI AND HIS SATYAGRAHIS ARRIVED AT DANDI ON THE SEACOAST OF SOUTH GUJARAT ON THE MORNING OF 5TH APRIL.



THE NEXT DAY —



HAIL, DELIVERER!

ALL INDIA WAS EXCITED. THE MAKING OF ILLEGAL SALT BECAME A WAY OF PROTEST ALONG THE SEACOAST. INDIANS BEGAN TO MAKE AND SELL SALT.



THE GOVERNMENT, ALARMED BY THIS FEARLESS DEFIANCE, TRIED TO STOP THE MOVEMENT USING HARSH METHODS.

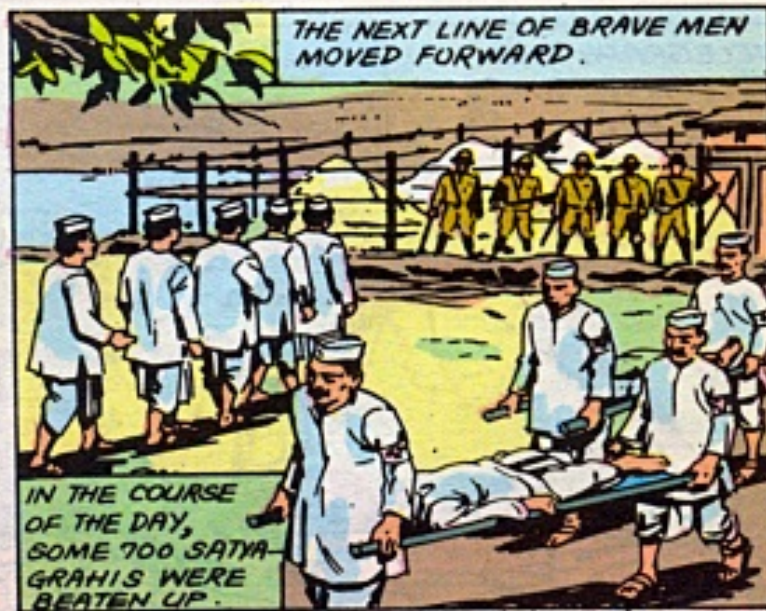


GANDHI TERMED THE POLICE BRUTALITIES THAT FOLLOWED THE DANDI MARCH AS "GOONDA RAJ." ON MAY 3, HE WROTE TO THE VICEROY OF HIS INTENTION TO RAID THE GOVERNMENT SALT WORKS AT DHARAGANA.* HE WAS ARRESTED THE VERY NEXT DAY...



... AND THE SATYAGRAHI RAID WAS LED BY SAROJINI NAIDU. ON THE MORNING OF MAY 21, A DISCIPLINED ARMY OF 2,500 SATYAGRAHI HEROES GOT READY FOR THE ATTACK. AFTER PRAYERS —

GANDHI'S BODY IS IN JAIL. BUT HIS SOUL IS WITH YOU. INDIA'S PRESTIGE IS IN YOUR HANDS. YOU MUST NOT USE ANY VIOLENCE. YOU WILL BE BEATEN. BUT YOU MUST NOT RESIST. YOU MUST NOT EVEN RAISE A HAND TO WARD OFF BLOWS.



THE DHARASANA RAIDS SOON STOPPED, BUT THE SALT SATYAGRAHA CONTINUED. GRADUALLY BRITISH PUBLIC OPINION UNDERWENT A CHANGE. GANDHI WAS RELEASED ON JANUARY 26, 1931. HE WAS INVITED FOR TALKS BY LORD IRWIN AT THE VICEREGAL PALACE ON FEBRUARY 17.



LORD IRWIN WAS FRIENDLY. WHEN TEA WAS SERVED —



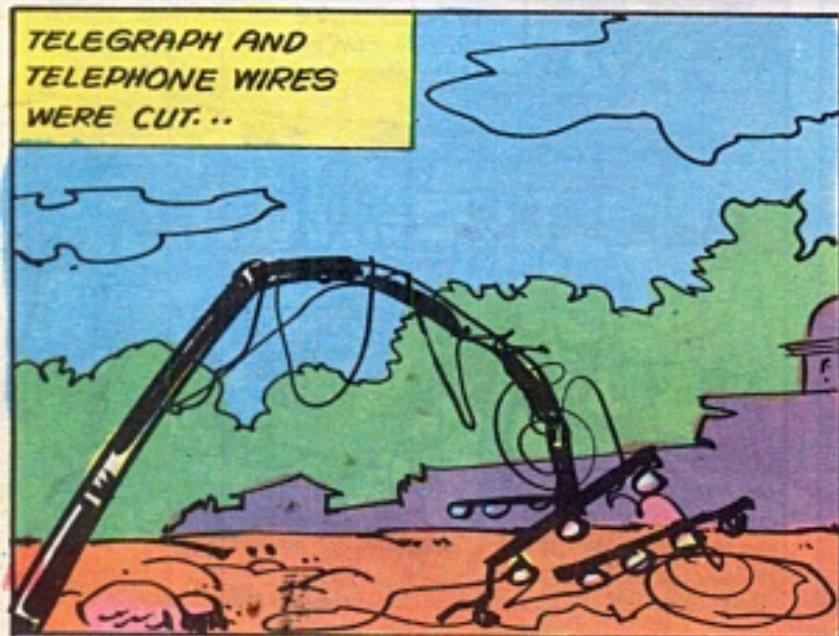
THE GANDHI-IRWIN PACT WAS SIGNED. THE VICEROY AGREED TO RELEASE THE SATYAGRAHI PRISONERS. PEACEFUL PICKETING OF FOREIGN CLOTH SHOPS AND LIQUOR BOOTHS WAS PERMITTED. THE GOODS AND LANDS CONFISCATED FOR NON PAYMENT OF LAND REVENUE WERE RETURNED.

* IN 1773 THE AMERICANS HAD THROWN ENGLISH TEA BOXES INTO THE SEA AT BOSTON HARBOUR IN PROTEST AGAINST THE TAX ON TEA.

6TH APRIL TO 13TH APRIL WAS OBSERVED AS NATIONAL WEEK IN MEMORY OF THE EVENTS LEADING TO THE JALLIANWALLA BAGH MASSACRE IN 1919. THE REVOLUTIONARIES TOO DEALT HARD BLOWS TO BRITISH RULERS. SURYA SEN AND THE SOLDIERS OF THE INDIAN SOCIALIST REPUBLICAN ARMY CONTINUED TO HAUNT THE BRITISH IN BENGAL. SURYA SEN HAD STRUCK THE FIRST BLOW ON APRIL 18, 1930 WHEN HIS BOYS SUCCESSFULLY RAIDED THE CHITTAGONG ARMOURY.



TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE WIRES WERE CUT...



...AND RAILWAY TRACKS WERE BLOCKED.



MASTERDA, AS SURYA SEN WAS AFFECTIONATELY CALLED, ADDRESSED A MEETING.

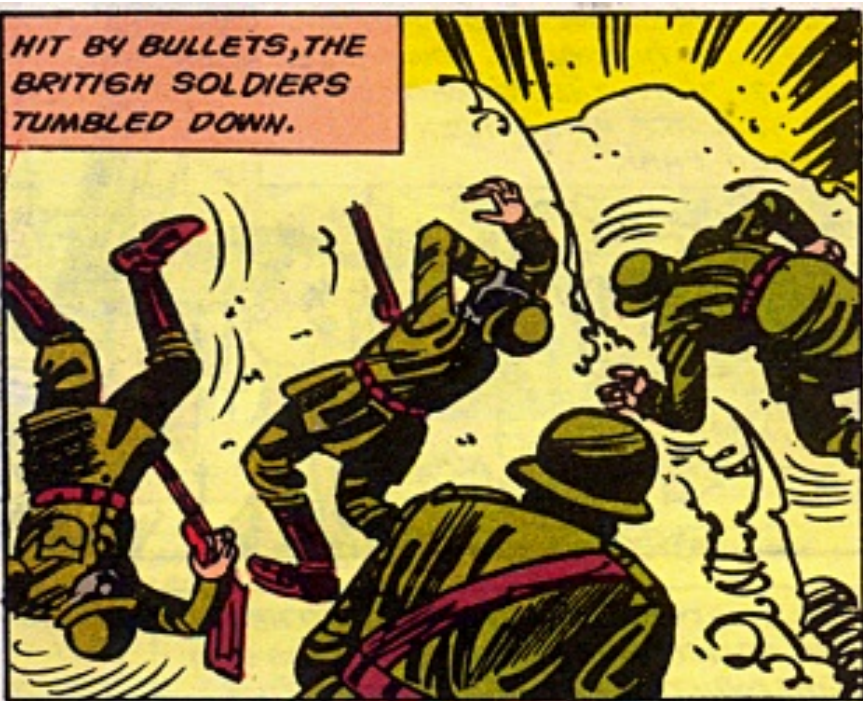
CHITTAGONG IS LIBERATED. THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM WILL CONTINUE. OUR MOTTO IS— LIBERTY OR DEATH.



THE BRITISH MUSTERED A STRONG FORCE AND SURROUNDED THE HILLS OF JALALABAD, NEAR CHITTAGONG, WHERE THE FREEDOM-FIGHTERS HAD TAKEN UP POSITIONS. AS THE SOLDIERS CAME WITHIN FIRING RANGE—



HIT BY BULLETS, THE BRITISH SOLDIERS TUMBLED DOWN.



THE BRITISH SOLDIERS THEN TOOK POSITIONS ON A NEARBY HILL AND THEIR MACHINE-GUNS BEGAN TO SPILL FIRE.



THEY CEASED FIRE LATE IN THE NIGHT.

THEY CAME EARLY THE NEXT MORNING AND FOUND 12 DEAD BODIES. MASTERDA AND SEVERAL OTHERS HAD ESCAPED.



MASTERDA (SURYA SEN) AND HIS GUERRILLA FORCE OF MEN AND WOMEN CONTINUED TO WAGE WARFARE. PREETILATA WADDEDAR, WHO LED A SUCCESSFUL ATTACK AGAINST THE EUROPEAN CLUB AND LATER KILLED HERSELF, BELONGED TO SURYA SEN'S GROUP.

CHANDRASHEKHAR AZAD MANAGED TO ELUDE THE POLICE. HOWEVER ON FEB. 27, 1931, THE POLICE TOOK HIM BY SURPRISE IN A GARDEN — ALFRED PARK*



AZAD CONTINUED TO FIRE DESPITE INJURIES RECEIVED FROM THE POLICE BULLETS.



FOR THIRTY-TWO MINUTES AZAD HELD THE POLICE AT BAY WHEN HE WAS LEFT WITH ONLY ONE BULLET, HE RAISED THE MUZZLE TO HIS TEMPLE AND PRESSED THE TRIGGER.



BHAGAT SINGH, RAJ GURU AND SUKHDEV WERE SENTENCED TO DEATH. ON MARCH 23, 1931 AS BHAGAT SINGH WALKED UP TO THE GALLOWS —



AS DECIDED IN THE GANDHI-IRWIN PACT, GANDHI ATTENDED THE SECOND ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE HELD IN ENGLAND IN SEPTEMBER 1931 TO DECIDE INDIA'S FUTURE BUT THE CONFERENCE FAILED. THE INDIAN DELEGATES HAD BEEN CAREFULLY SELECTED BY THE VICEROY TO REPRESENT VARIOUS GROUPS AND INTERESTS, NOT INDIA AS A WHOLE.



THEY REPRESENTED INDIA AS A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF.

*NOW AZAD PARK

IN CONTRAST —

THE CONGRESS REPRESENTS NO PARTICULAR COMMUNITY, NO PARTICULAR INTEREST. IT CLAIMS TO REPRESENT ALL INDIAN INTERESTS AND ALL CLASSES. ABOVE ALL, THE DUMB, SEMI-STARVED MILLIONS IN 7,00,000 VILLAGES ...



BUT BACK IN INDIA, THE VICEROY, LORD WILLINGDON, AND THE BRITISH OFFICIALS WERE NOT FRIENDLY. ALARMED BY THE SPREADING UNREST IN THE U. P., THE FRONTIER PROVINCE AND BENGAL, THE VICEROY DECIDED TO CRUSH THE CONGRESS. JAWAHARLAL NEHRU AND KHAN ABDUL GHAFFAR KHAN WERE ARRESTED.



THE GOVERNMENT PROCLAIMED REPRESSIVE ORDINANCES IN THE THREE PROVINCES.

GANDHI LANDED IN BOMBAY ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 28, 1931, AND IN THE EVENING, ADDRESSED A HUGE MASS MEETING ON THE AZAD MAIDAN.

LAST YEAR WE FACED LATHIS, BUT THIS TIME WE MUST BE PREPARED TO FACE BULLETS... IF THERE IS TO BE A FIGHT, BE PREPARED FOR EVERY SACRIFICE.



GANDHI REQUESTED AN INTERVIEW WITH THE VICEROY TO DISCUSS HOW THE STATE OF PEACE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE CONGRESS COULD BE CONTINUED. THE VICEROY ARROGANTLY REFUSED THE REQUEST AND, INSTEAD, ARRESTED GANDHI ON JANUARY 4, 1932. AND SO THE SATYAGRAHA STARTED AGAIN AND THOUSANDS WERE JAILED IN A FEW MONTHS INCLUDING ALL CONGRESS LEADERS.

WHILE GANDHI WAS IN JAIL, THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER, RAMSAY MACDONALD, ANNOUNCED HIS DECISION, KNOWN AS THE COMMUNAL AWARD, GIVING SEPARATE ELECTORATES TO MUSLIMS, SIKHS AND THE DEPRESSED CLASSES. THIS MEANT THAT THESE COMMUNITIES WOULD ELECT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE FUTURE LEGISLATURES. THIS ALSO MEANT THAT THE DIVISION OF PEOPLE INTO COMMUNITIES AND CLASSES WOULD GET STRENGTHENED.

I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT SEPARATE ELECTORATES FOR HARIJANS WOULD BE FOR THEIR GOOD. IT WOULD HARM THE MOVEMENT OF REFORM AMONG HINDUS FOR ENDING THE PRACTICE OF UNTOUCHABILITY.



GANDHI'S STRONG REACTION TO THE AWARD BECAME A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION.

MAHATMA GANDHI SAYS: "WILL UNTOUCHABLES REMAIN UNTOUCHABLES FOREVER? I WOULD FAR RATHER THAT HINDUISM DIED THAN THAT UNTOUCHABILITY LIVED."



IN PROTEST AGAINST THE COMMUNAL AWARD, GANDHI WENT ON AN INDEFINITE FAST.



AND IT HAPPENED. THERE WAS A GREAT WAVE OF AWAKENING AGAINST UNTOUCHABILITY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. SOME WELL-KNOWN TEMPLES OPENED THEIR DOORS TO HARIJANS, AND ENTHUSIASTIC REFORMERS ARRANGED JOINT DINNERS OF CASTE HINDUS AND HARIJANS.



FOR GANDHI, WHOSE CONDITION WAS BY NOW CRITICAL, IT WAS 'A MODERN MIRACLE'. TO THE NATIONAL LEADERS HE CONVEYED HIS DECISION TO FAST UNTO DEATH, UNLESS THE COMMUNAL AWARD WAS REVOKED. AMBEDKAR MET HIM IN THE JAIL.

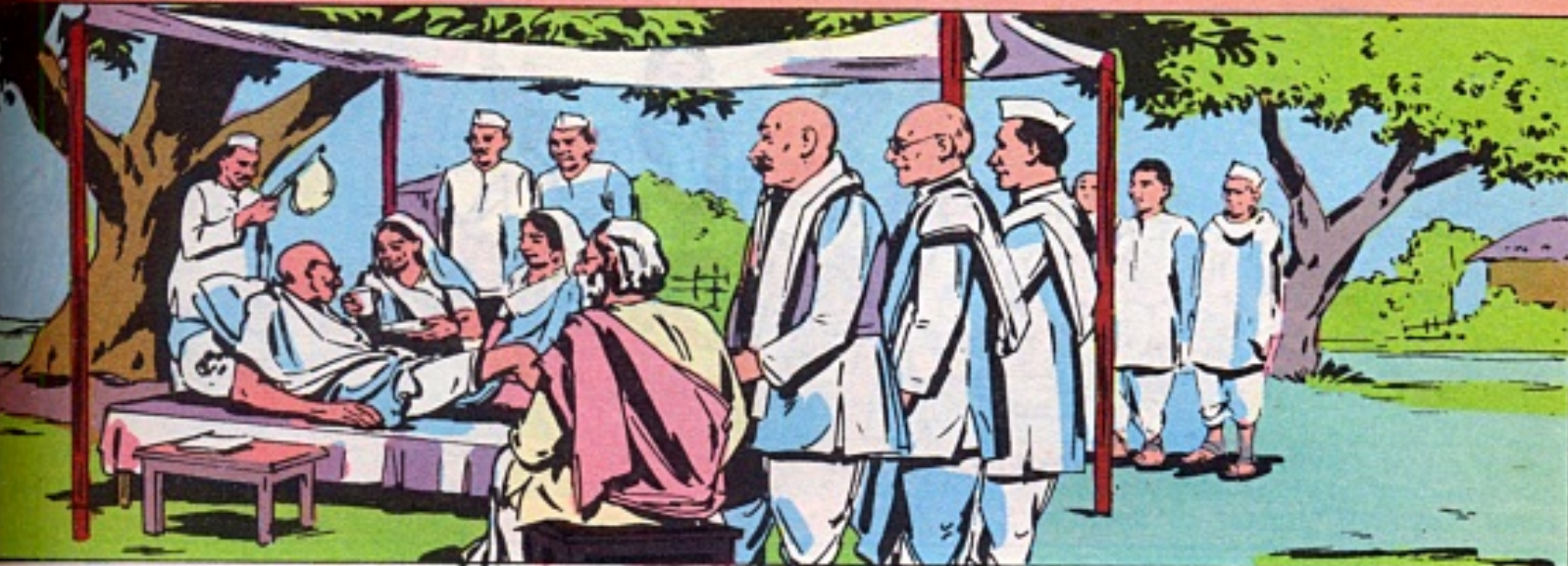


THE SETTLEMENT MADE IN YERAVDA JAIL WAS DISCUSSED AND APPROVED AT THE CONFERENCE OF HINDU LEADERS IN BOMBAY, IN SEPTEMBER.

... NO ONE SHALL BE REGARDED AS AN UNTOUCHABLE BY REASON OF HIS BIRTH, AND THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN SO REGARDED HITHERTO, WILL HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AS THE OTHER HINDUS IN REGARD TO THE USE OF PUBLIC WELLS, PUBLIC ROADS AND OTHER PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS. THIS RIGHT SHALL BE ONE OF THE EARLIEST ACTS OF THE SWARAJ PARLIAMENT...



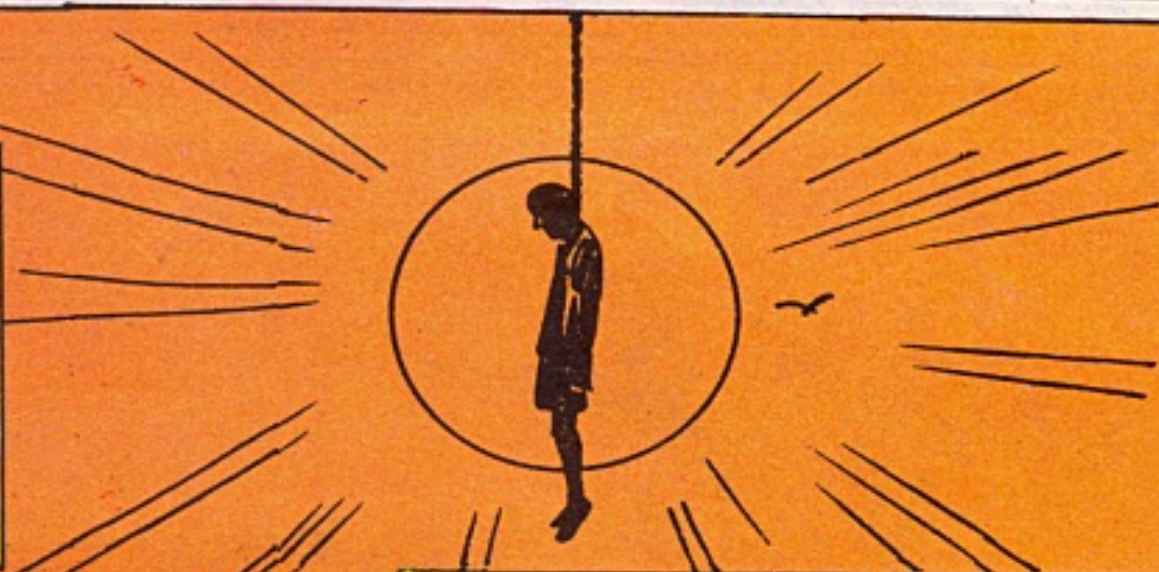
AFTER FOUR DAYS OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE LEADERS AND DR B.R. AMBEDKAR, A SETTLEMENT WAS REACHED ON SEPTEMBER 25 AND THE PRIME MINISTER INFORMED OF IT. WHEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED THE TERMS OF THE POONA PACT, GANDHI BROKE HIS FAST ON THE AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 26, 1932.



THOUGH HE WAS RELEASED ON MAY 8, 1933, HE SERVED TWO MORE TERMS IN PRISON AND WAS FINALLY RELEASED IN AUGUST 1933. HE UNDERTOOK A NINE MONTHS' TOUR OF THE COUNTRY, FROM NOVEMBER 1933 FOR THE PROPAGATION OF HIS MESSAGE OF ABOLITION OF UNTOUCHABILITY.



MEANWHILE SURYA SEN, WHO HAD ELUDED THE POLICE FOR MORE THAN 3½ YEARS WAS TAKEN PRISONER ON MAY 19, 1933 AND WAS HANGED ON JANUARY 12, 1934.



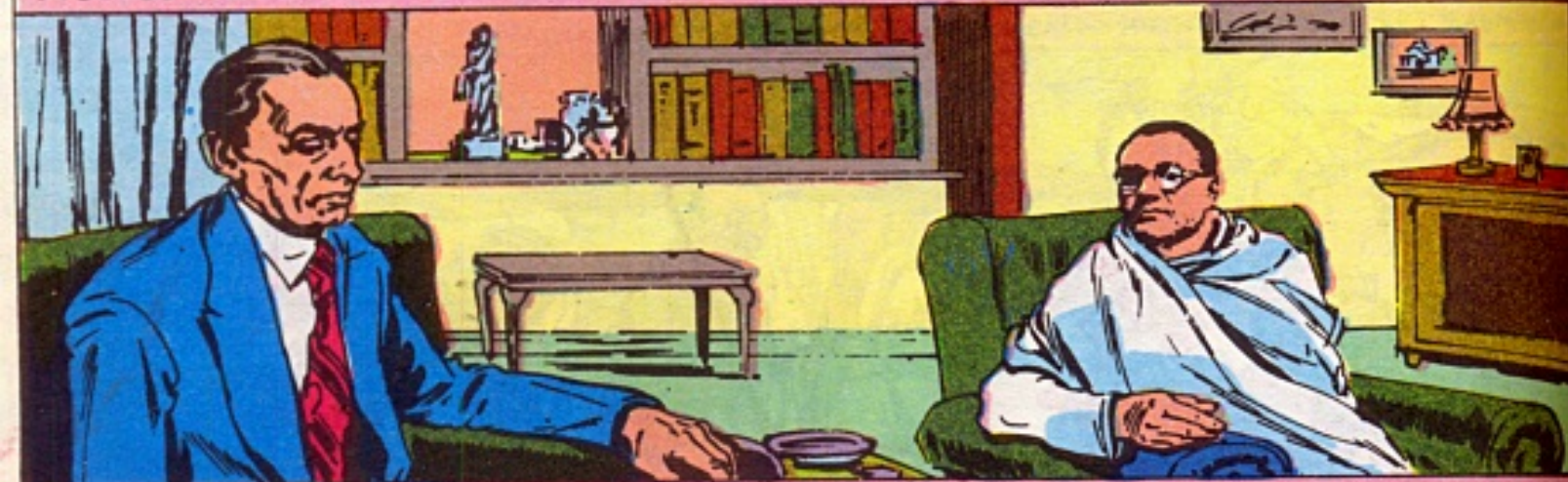
SURYA SEN AND HIS COMRADE TARAKESHWAR DASTIDAR WHO WAS HANGED ON THE SAME DAY WERE GIVEN A BURIAL IN THE SEA.

AS AN OUTCOME OF THE ROUND TABLE CONFERENCES, THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT 1935 WAS PASSED GRANTING PARTIAL AUTONOMY TO THE PROVINCES. THE CONGRESS WON HANDSOMELY IN THE ELECTIONS HELD IN 1937, FORMING MINISTRIES IN EIGHT OUT OF THE ELEVEN PROVINCES IN THE COUNTRY.



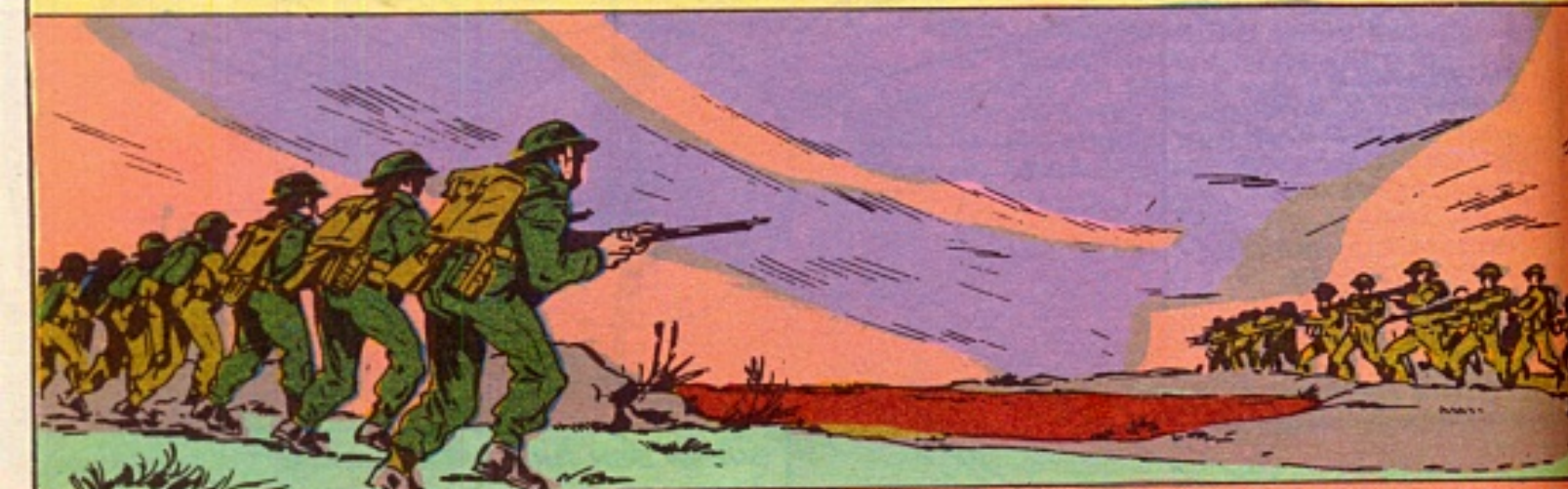
THE MUSLIM LEAGUE, HEADED BY M.A. JINNAH, DID POORLY AT THE ELECTIONS AND GOT NO SHARE OF POWER IN ANY OF THE PROVINCES. ANGRY, JINNAH STARTED A CAMPAIGN AMONG THE MUSLIMS WITH THE CRY, "ISLAM IN DANGER".

CONGRESS PRESIDENT, SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE, MET JINNAH AT HIS RESIDENCE IN BOMBAY, TO DISCUSS HIS DEMANDS, BUT THEY COULD NOT COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING.



JINNAH'S CAMPAIGN SUCCEEDED SO WELL THAT IN TWO OR THREE YEARS, HE BECAME THE MOST POWERFUL MUSLIM LEADER.

THEN IN SEPTEMBER 1939 WORLD WAR II BROKE. THE THREAT OF HITLER LOOMED OVER ENGLAND AND FRANCE.



THE CONGRESS ASKED FOR THE PROMISE OF FREEDOM AFTER THE WAR IN RETURN FOR HELP IN THE WAR EFFORT.

§ IN ALL PROVINCES EXCEPT BENGAL, THE PUNJAB AND SIND.

WHEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT REFUSED, THE CONGRESS MINISTRIES RESIGNED. JINNAH CALLED ON THE MUSLIMS TO CELEBRATE DECEMBER 22, 1939 AS "DELIVERANCE DAY". HE PERSUADED THE MUSLIM LEAGUE SESSION AT LAHORE ON MARCH 24, 1940, TO DEMAND THE PARTITION OF INDIA AND THE FORMATION OF A MUSLIM STATE, PAKISTAN.



JINNAH TERMED THE HINDUS AND THE MUSLIMS 'TWO NATIONS'.

GANDHI WAS DEEPLY PAINED BY JINNAH'S STATEMENT.

THE "TWO-NATIONS" THEORY IS AN UNTRUTH. AS A MAN OF NON-VIOLENCE, I CANNOT FORCIBLY RESIST THE PROPOSED PARTITION IF THE MUSLIMS OF INDIA INSIST UPON IT. BUT I CAN NEVER BE A WILLING PARTY TO THE VIVISECTION...

FOR IT MEANS THE UNDOING OF CENTURIES OF WORK DONE BY NUMBERLESS HINDUS AND MUSLIMS TO LIVE TOGETHER AS ONE NATION. MY WHOLE SOUL REBELS AGAINST THE IDEA THAT HINDUISM AND ISLAM REPRESENT TWO ANTAGONISTIC CULTURES AND DOCTRINES.

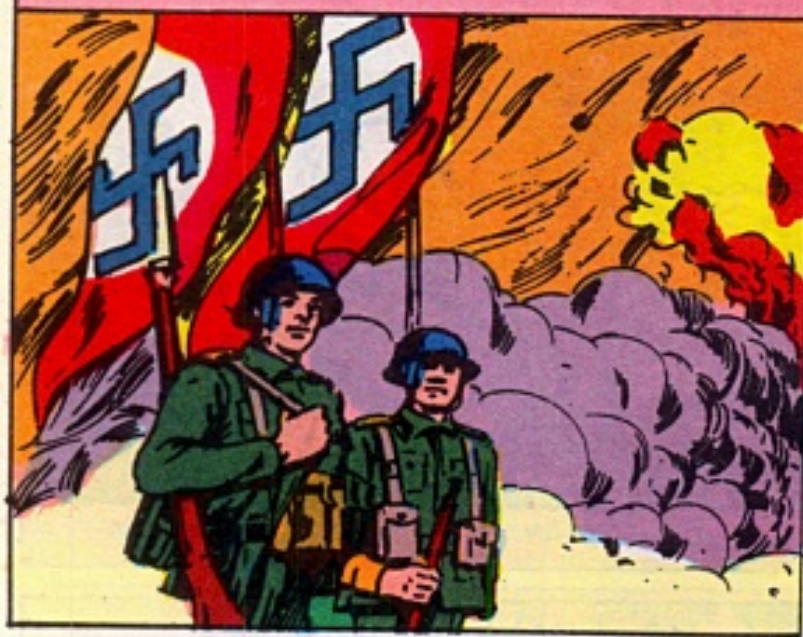


IN JUNE 1940, CHURCHILL BECAME THE PRIME MINISTER OF GREAT BRITAIN AND THE HOPE OF THE CONGRESS DEMANDS BEING MET BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DWINDLED. MASS CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE WAS NOW REPLACED BY INDIVIDUAL SATYAGRAHA. ONE BY ONE SENIOR CONGRESS LEADERS AND PEOPLE WEDDED TO THE GANDHIAN WAY OF LIFE INCLUDING VINOBA BHAVE, JAWAHARLAL NEHRU, VALLABHBHAI PATEL, ABUL KALAM AZAD, WERE PICKED BY GANDHI AS SATYAGRAHIS. THEY GAVE ANTI-WAR SPEECHES AND WERE PROMPTLY ARRESTED AND JAILED.



DAY OF DELIVERANCE FROM THE CONGRESS RULE.

IN JUNE 1941, HITLER INVADIED THE SOVIET UNION AND IN DECEMBER, JAPAN JOINED THE AXIS POWERS, GERMANY AND ITALY. THE WAR BECAME REALLY GLOBAL NOW.



BY MARCH 1942, THE JAPANESE WERE IN BURMA AND WERE MOVING TOWARDS INDIA.



IN DECEMBER 1941, INDIVIDUAL SATYAGRAHIS WERE RELEASED FROM JAIL. ON MARCH 23, 1942 SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS, A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH CABINET, ARRIVED WITH A NEW OFFER.



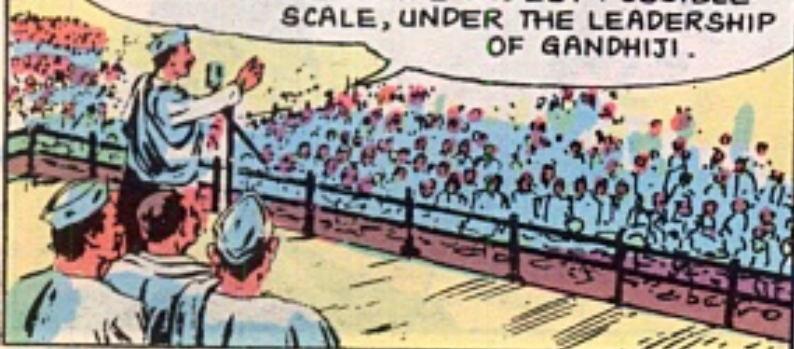
IT PROMISED FREEDOM AFTER THE WAR, AND A CONSTITUTION FORMED BY INDIANS. BUT IT ALSO GAVE PROVINCES AND PRINCES THE OPTION TO KEEP OUT OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

THIS COULD LEAD NOT ONLY TO TWO INDIAS, BUT SEVERAL OF THEM. DESCRIBING THE PROPOSALS AS A POST-DATED CHEQUE, GANDHI WAS RATHER BLUNT DURING HIS MEETING WITH CRIPPS.



GANDHI'S STAND WAS SUPPORTED BY THE MEETING OF THE ALL-INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE IN AUGUST 1942. AT A MEETING AT GOWALIA TANK, THE 'QUIT INDIA' RESOLUTION WAS PASSED.

... THE IMMEDIATE ENDING OF BRITISH RULE IN INDIA IS AN URGENT NECESSITY. BOTH FOR THE SAKE OF INDIA AND FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE CAUSE OF THE UNITED NATIONS.* THE COMMITTEE, THEREFORE, RESOLVES TO SANCTION THE STARTING OF A MASS STRUGGLE ON NON-VIOLENT LINES ON THE WIDEST POSSIBLE SCALE, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF GANDHIJI.



GANDHI HAD TOLD THE A.I.C.C ON AUGUST 7 —

AT A TIME WHEN I AM ABOUT TO LAUNCH THE BIGGEST FIGHT IN MY LIFE, THERE CAN BE NO HATRED FOR THE BRITISH IN MY HEART. IN A MOMENT OF ANGER, THEY MIGHT DO THINGS WHICH MIGHT PROVOKE YOU. NEVER- THELESS, YOU SHOULD NOT RESORT TO VIOLENCE...



THE GOVERNMENT DID, IN ANGER, ACT RASHLY. THOUGH GANDHI HAD DECLARED THAT HE WOULD NOT START THE MOVEMENT BEFORE HE HAD SEEN THE VICEROY...

... THE GOVERNMENT ARRESTED GANDHI AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE EARLY IN THE MORNING OF AUGUST 9. BEFORE BEING TAKEN AWAY BY THE POLICE, GANDHI GAVE A MESSAGE TO "EVERY NON-VIOLENT SOLDIER OF FREEDOM".



BUT WITHOUT GANDHI TO CONTROL AND GUIDE THEM, SOME LEADERS WENT UNDERGROUND AND DISREGARDED THE GANDHIAN OBSERVANCE OF NON-VIOLENCE.



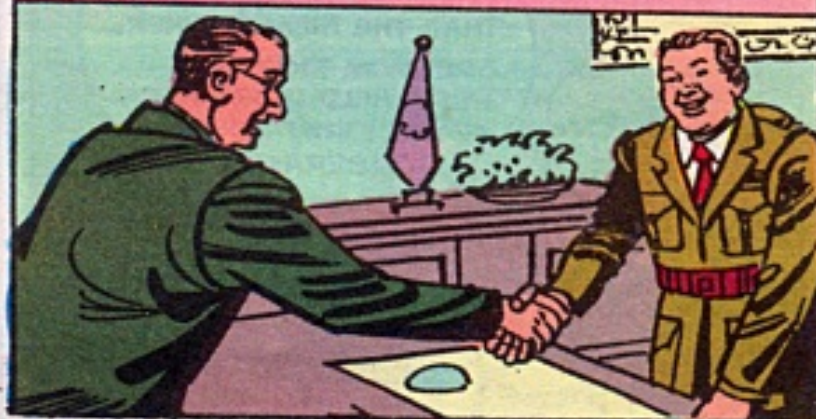
OUR AIM IS TO WIN FREEDOM FOR INDIA. WE WELCOME HELP FROM ALL QUARTERS. WE SHALL FIGHT OUR BATTLES WITH SUCH HELP, IF POSSIBLE, BUT WITHOUT IT IF NECESSARY.



AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER, ALL OVER THE COUNTRY-



IN 1915 AFTER THE ABORTED UPRISING RASH BEHARI HAD ESCAPED TO JAPAN. WHEN THE SECOND WORLD WAR BROKE OUT, HE TOURED SOUTH-EAST ASIA, BUILDING UP HIS INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY. HE DID NOT HESITATE TO JOIN HANDS WITH THE JAPANESE TO ACHIEVE HIS AIM.



MEANWHILE, SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE WHO HAD REACHED JAPAN IN JANUARY 1941 AND JOINED RASH BEHARI BOSE, URGED THE PEOPLE THROUGH RADIO MESSAGES TO FIGHT THE BRITISH WITH THE HELP OF THE JAPANESE.



ON JULY 4, 1943 RASH BEHARI BOSE HANDED OVER THE COMMAND TO SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AT A PARADE HELD IN SINGAPORE.



AS LONG AS THERE IS BREATH IN MY BODY I SHALL BE THE SOLDIER THAT I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN — THE SOLDIER IN THE BATTLE FOR MOTHER INDIA'S FREEDOM.

INDIAN SOLDIERS DESERTED THE BRITISH ARMY AND SWELLED THE RANKS OF AZAD HIND FAUJ. NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE SET UP A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF FREE INDIA IN SINGAPORE. JAPAN HANDED OVER THE ANDAMANS AND NICOBAR ISLANDS TO AZAD HIND GOVERNMENT.



IT IS ONLY APPROPRIATE THAT THE ISLAND WHERE FREEDOM FIGHTERS WERE HELD PRISONERS IS THE FIRST TO BE LIBERATED.

ON MARCH 18, 1944 THE AZAD HIND FAUJ CROSSED THE BURMA BORDER. ITS MEN KISSED THE SACRED SOIL OF INDIA.



SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE ADDRESSED THE AZAD HIND FAUJ—

HARK, INDIA IS CALLING, INDIA'S METROPOLIS DELHI IS CALLING, THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY EIGHT MILLIONS OF OUR COUNTRYMEN ARE CALLING.... THE ROAD TO DELHI IS THE ROAD TO FREEDOM.



HOWEVER, THE ALLIES EMERGED VICTORIOUS IN THE WAR. THE AZAD HIND SOLDIERS COULD NOT EXPECT JAPANESE BACKING ANYMORE. THEY WERE ON THEIR OWN.



FROM MAY 1945, THE POLITICAL SITUATION CHANGED. GERMANY SURRENDERED ON MAY 7 AND WAS FOLLOWED BY JAPAN ON AUGUST 10.



IN THE LAST WEEK OF AUGUST, SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE WAS INJURED IN A PLANE CRASH AND DIED IN JAPAN.



IN ENGLAND, THE LABOUR PARTY WON THE ELECTION BY A HUGE MAJORITY AND BEGAN CONSULTATIONS WITH THE VICEROY FOR A SETTLEMENT OF THE INDIAN PROBLEM.

GANDHI WHO HAD BEEN RELEASED IN MAY 1944, TRIED TO PERSUADE JINNAH TO GIVE UP HIS DEMAND FOR PAKISTAN, BUT DID NOT SUCCEED.



IN FEBRUARY 1946, THE INDIAN SAILORS OF THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY MUTINIED IN BOMBAY, WHICH GAVE URGENCY TO THE INDIAN PROBLEM.

THREE MINISTERS OF THE BRITISH CABINET, LORD PETHICK-LAWRENCE, SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS, AND A. V. ALEXANDER CAME OUT TO INDIA IN MARCH 1946 TO DISCUSS WITH INDIAN LEADERS HOW POWER COULD BE TRANSFERRED.



IN SPITE OF PROLONGED DISCUSSIONS, THEY FAILED TO BRING ABOUT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CONGRESS AND THE MUSLIM LEAGUE. THE VICEROY THEN INVITED JAWAHARLAL NEHRU TO FORM A PROVISIONAL NATIONAL GOVERNMENT UNDER HIM.

A NEW VICEROY, LORD MOUNTBATTEN, ARRIVED ON MARCH 22, 1947, TO CARRY OUT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO HAND OVER POWER TO THE INDIANS BEFORE JUNE 1948.



ON AUGUST 15, 1947, PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU HOISTED THE TRICOLOUR ATOP THE RED FORT —



AFTER TWO MONTHS OF TALKS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH INDIAN LEADERS OF ALL PARTIES, MOUNTBATTEN MADE THE CONGRESS AGREE TO THE PARTITION OF INDIA, AND JINNAH TO THE PARTITION OF BENGAL AND THE PUNJAB. GANDHI DID NOT AT ALL LIKE THE CONGRESS LEADERS' DECISION TO ACCEPT PARTITION, BUT DID NOT PUBLICLY OPPOSE IT. THE DATE OF FREEDOM WAS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM JUNE 1948 TO AUGUST 15, 1947.



A note from the Editor

The number of people who fought bravely in the freedom struggle or fell victim to British bullets or atrocities is so large that all of them cannot find mention in a concise account like ours. All the same we could not but fail to notice a few omissions after putting together this volume.

In the South, a prominent revolutionary was Wanchi Iyer, who shot down Robert William D'Escourt Ashe, the collector of Tinnevely, the embodiment of all the British oppression in the area, on June 17, 1911. Soon after, Wanchi shot himself. Another prominent name is of Alluri Sitaram Raju, who had struck terror in the minds of the British rulers by his frequent raids on police stations accompanied by his armed

comrades. He worked mainly among the tribals. He was captured on May 7, 1924. The hero of many encounters and battles with the police was tied to a tree and shot dead like an animal. Gandhi wrote of him, "I cannot withhold my homage from a youth so brave, so self-sacrificing, so simple and so noble in character as Shri Rama Raju."

Jayaprakash Narayan was a star that shone on the horizon, almost ever since he returned to India in November 1929 after studying abroad. During the Quit India Movement, he went underground, set up a training centre for revolutionaries and served as a guide and source of inspiration to freedom-fighters all over India.

Among the martyrs of the

Quit India Movement were Kanaklata Barua of Assam who was shot dead while holding the Congress flag and Hemu Kalani of Sindh who was hanged for participating in the movement.

Mention must be made of those freedom fighters who led small pockets of resistance against the British. Birsa Bhagawan (also known as Birsa Munda) led the Santhal rebellion armed only with bows and arrows! Further east, the Nagas were led by Gidalyu Rani. She spent 18 years in prison (1931-1949) for her role in the freedom struggle.

A silent, but an extremely significant role was played by Swami Vivekananda. He was responsible for inculcating a sense of self-esteem in Indians.



Kanaklata Barua



Alluri Sitaram Raju



Jayaprakash Narayan

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Material on revolutionaries provided by Prof. Satyavrat Ghosh

© India Book House Limited, August, 1997

ISBN 81-7508-114-7

Published by Anant Pai for India Book House Limited, Fleet Building, Mathuradas Vasanji Road, Marol Naka, Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 059 and printed by him at Prasad Offset Press, Shed B&CS, No. 42, Hissa No. 2, Sativali, Vasai Kaman Road, Vasai Taluka, Thane District.

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CRAYONS
(12 & 24
shades)**



**CAMEL
CRAYPLAS
PLASTIC
CRAYONS
(12, 15 & 24
shades)**



**CAMEL
STUDENTS'
POSTER
COLOURS
(6 & 12
shades)**



**CAMEL FANTASY STUDENTS' WATER
COLOUR TUBES (6, 12 & 14 shades)**



**CAMEL
PASTELLO
OIL
PASTELS
(12, 24 & 48
shades)**



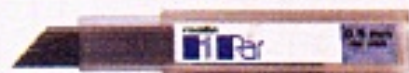
**CAMEL KREYONA
WAX CRAYONS
(12 shades)**



**CAMEL
STUDENTS'
WATER
COLOUR
CAKES
(12 & 18
shades)**



**CAMLIN
LONG-TIP
SKETCH
PENS
(12 & 24
Shades)**



**CAMLIN HI-PAR LEADS
0.5mm & 0.7mm**



**CAMLIN 0.5mm & 0.7mm
FINE LINE PENCILS**



**CAMLIN FLORA
WOODEN PENCIL
AND SHARPENER**

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AT THE HEART OF ART

To get
the finest
in writing
pleasure,
just press
gently



Camlin



0.5mm NOUVEL TECHNO FINE PENCILS

Stylish and elegant, Camlin Nouvel Techno Fine Pencils perfectly complement your lifestyle. Camlin Nouvel Techno Fine Line Pencils come with a built-in high quality lead and an autofeed system which allows the lead to slip out easily to give continuous writing. Camlin Nouvel Techno Fine Line Pencils do not require a sharpener, are non messy and light weight. You can erase your writing easily with the built-in eraser. You can write reams of paper and even improve your handwriting.

Camlin Hi-Par leads are available in 0.5mm and 0.7mm in 5 varieties; B, 2B, HB, 2H & H. They can be used by students, engineers, architects, executives and professionals. Camlin Nouvel Techno Fine Line Pencils make writing a pleasure.

0.5mm Hi-Par leads available in a pack of 15 leads



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